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USSR Report

AGRICULTURE

No. 1333



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21 June 1982

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SPRING FIELD WORK STARTED IN BALTIC AREA

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 82 p 1

[Article by Ye. Vostrukhov (Latvian SSR): "Awaiting Spring"]

[Excerpts] There was abundant snow during the winter in the Baltic area. In several regions of Latvia the snow cover reached almost a meter. Again and again the farmers have to expand the roads to the fields and farms in order to continuously ship in organic fertilizers. Broad support has been given to the initiative of the workers of the Valmiyerskiy agro-industrial association concerning a three-month shock campaign for accumulating and shipping organic fertilizers for this year's harvest. The abundant rains of recent years have removed many nutritive substances from the soil and in order to restore its fertility, according to the calculations of specialists, it is necessary to increase the norm for applying organic fertilizers to 20-25 tons per hectare.

The farmers see in this a guarantee of stable crops even with unfavorable weather conditions.

The land resources of the Baltic republics are extremely limited. This is why the value of each hectare is so high. There is practically only one way of increasing the production of farm products--to significantly increase the productivity of all crops and primarily grain crops. According to the plans for the five-year period it is necessary to increase their average productivity in Latvia to 26 quintals per hectare. This is not one of the easiest tasks if one takes into account that the average productivity during the past four years was not so high. True, these years were unfavorable in terms of weather conditions. Despite assistance from the state the shortage of yields of grain crops had a serious effect on the quality of feed resources as well and also on the productivity of the farms.

But these years that were difficult for the farmers also clearly revealed something else. On the one hand, the ability of many collectives to successfully surmount the onslaught of the elements, and, on the other, they revealed loopholes in the republic's farming as well as mistakes in management and scientific practice. We have been convinced above all that the guarantee of a good yield is winter crops. For the Baltic area is a favorable zone for cultivating them. During the 1960's

winter crops occupied an average of almost 60 percent of the grain fields--360,000 hectares. But under the past five-year plan the area planted in rye and wheat was reduced to 190,000 hectares. Now, taking into account the capabilities of the farms and their specific conditions, the area planted in winter crops has been expanded by 50,000 hectares.

The fact is that the strains of almost all the field crops cultivated in Latvia need to be improved. (This pertains primarily to grain crops). Recently the republic has taken certain measures to surmount the arrears in selection work and to expand research in the training of scientific personnel. Under the Tenth Five-Year Plan Latvian selection workers isolated twelve new strains of agricultural crops, including five of grain crops. But still no radical improvement has been achieved yet. We are affected by the fact that the Baltic selection center which is located in Lithuania engages only in the isolation of new strains of perennial grasses. The creation of strains of other crops is planned for the Western Selection Center--on the territory of Belorussia. Therefore all selection institutions of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia have turned out to be support points for it. But Belorussia is located in a different soil and climate zone. The farming practice of many years shows that Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania need their own selection center.

In order to increase productivity, in addition to improving selection work, seed growing is of great importance. But in recent years in the republic there have been serious arrears in this matter. In 1981 the demand for conditioned seeds of spring, grain and pulp crops was satisfied by 89 percent. Only 36 percent of the seeds were of the first and second classes of the sowing standard, and only 6 percent of them were in the first class. The main reason for this is the absence of real intrarayon specialization in seed growing.

More than 100 farms in Latvia specialize in growing seeds of grain and pulse crops. In 1980 they were to sell the state and commercial farms more than 49,000 tons of conditioned seeds for strain renewal. But they failed to fulfill the plan by one-fourth. These farms have a weak material and technical base.

The way to overcome these arrears is rapid specialization of the farms within the framework of rayon agro-industrial associations. Seed growing is organized remarkably well on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin of the Talsinskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association, the first in the republic. This is a truly highly mechanized seed growing farm which for five years now has been fulfilling the functions of an interfarm enterprise and supplying four commercial farms with high-quality treated seeds, delivering them directly to the seeders in the spring. Specialization in seed growing is being carried out successfully by the Valmiyerskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association. The agro-industrial associations that have been created in all rayons of Latvia have earmarked the initial volumes of construction and reconstruction of seed growing facilities on specialized farms. One must hope that progress will be made in seed growing in the near future.

Latvian farmers are persistently searching for possibilities of increasing the productivity of grain crops. It is intended to improve the utilization of drained

and irrigated land. During the course of the year 50,000 more hectares of drained land will be put to use and 180,000 hectares of acid soil will be limed. Last autumn practically all of the rayons fulfilled the plan for plowing fallow. The technical equipment is being successfully repaired.

But this is what bothers the workers of the fields: how to avoid losses during harvesting of the grain crops. Up to this point the harvest has been prolonged in the republic. The reason is the low productivity of the combines; it does not average more than 3-4 hectares a day. Therefore in addition to direct combining and individual harvesting, specialists think that it is necessary to search out progressive new methods of harvesting. One of them has been developed by the Latvian Scientific Research Institute of Farming and Agricultural Economics. They have proposed a technology for simultaneous harvesting of the entire biological mass of grain crops, using combines only for stationary thrashing. Self-propelled mowers gather the entire crop (both grain and straw), load it into trailers and transport it to the place for stationary thrashing. This year 50 farms intend to apply the new technology.

The Baltic climate is constantly bringing its surprises. But the local farmers have enough opportunities to obtain large crops in any weather. To take advantage of these opportunities skillfully and creatively is the guarantee of successful fulfillment of the assignments of the five-year plan.

11772

CSO: 1824/300

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

EFFECTS OF WEATHER ON PLANTED AREAS IN LATVIA

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 24 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by V. Knava, agrometeorologist: "The Weather and Planted Areas"]

[Text] The majority of rye and wheat plantings were well bushed out at the beginning of winter. But the excess of moisture in the soil during the autumn had a negative effect on the preparation of the plants for winter, and they were not properly tempered. There was a heavy snow cover on the fields of the republic as early as the end of November. The snow lay on thawed soil. During the frequent December snowfalls the depth of the cover increased and by the beginning of January it was 25-40 centimeters, and in the areas around Gayzin'kalns it was 67 centimeters. Despite the freezing weather that prevailed in December, the soil remained thawed, and on the fields of certain southern regions of the republic it froze to a depth of 5-15 centimeters. The minimum temperature of the soil at the depth of the tillering node of winter grain crops remained at about zero, and in the areas around Bauska, Dagda and Daugavpils it was minus 3-5 degrees.

Such conditions reduced the winter hardiness of the winter crops.

At the beginning of January many farms conducted the first inspection of the condition of the areas planted in winter grain crops. Samples were taken from an area of 26,000 hectares. The results obtained from sprouting them showed that 19 percent of the samples of winter rye and 15 percent of the samples of winter wheat were too sparse.

In January and the first half of February light frosts, frequent storms and strong winds prevailed. The temperatures were lowest during the first 10 days of January. In places the air temperature was minus 25-30 degrees and the snow temperature--28-33 degrees. There were repeated thaws but they were short-lived and weak, and the snow cover became compacted during this time.

The areas planted in winter crops were under a heavy snow cover that was 35-50 centimeters deep, and in the Vidzemskaia heights it was as much as 83 centimeters. The soil was still not heavily frozen, and in a number of rayons it was thawed. The minimum temperature at the depth of the tillering node of the plants remained at about zero, and so conditions contributing to rotting of the crops remained. The wintering was somewhat better in certain southern and eastern rayons of the republic where the soil froze to a depth of 20-30 centimeters and the minimum

temperatures at the depth of the plants' tillering nodes remained in the range of minus 3-4 degrees.

At the end of January and the beginning of February 19 hydrometeorological stations and many farms of the republic again inspected the condition of the areas planted in winter crops. The results showed that their condition had deteriorated as compared to the beginning of January and the percentage of samples with great sparseness increased from 19 to 26 for winter rye and from 15 to 25 for winter wheat. The areas planted in clover are withstanding the winter well.

Anticyclone weather without precipitation and slight freezing are expected in the next few days. These conditions cannot change the conditions for wintering.

11772

CSO: 1824/300

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

IMPROVED SPRING FIELD WORK IN LITHUANIA URGED

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 22 Apr 82 p 1

/Article: "To Sow in a High-Quality Manner on Schedule"/

/Excerpts/ The rumble of engines does not stop on the republic's fields from morning till late evening--spring crops are being sown and the basis for the harvest of the second year of the 11th Five-Year Plan is being established. The republic's grain growers have set high targets for this year. They have decided to obtain 26 to 27 quintals of grain, 150 quintals of potatoes, 148 quintals of vegetables, 250 quintals of sugar beets and 4 quintals of flax fiber per hectare. These are complex and crucial tasks. Their successful accomplishment will require maximum efforts on the part of party, Soviet, economic, trade-union and Komsomol organizations, kolkhoz and sovkhos managers, specialists and all rural workers.

This spring the republic's farms will have to perform a large volume of field work. The spring wedge will occupy about 1,114,000 hectares. Owing to the unfavorable winter conditions part of the winter crops died. They must be resown with spring grain crops in a high-quality manner on schedule, which will greatly increase the load on people and equipment.

Under these conditions the successful performance of field work largely depends on a highly productive utilization of every machine and on a correct organization of the labor, discipline and skill of machine operators. Workers on many farms in Kretingskiy Rayon show a good example in this. They have already completed or are close to completing the sowing of grain crops. Unitizing is skillfully applied here, fueling is done directly in the furrow and mechanical seed dressers are used. Machine operators value every minute of work and work all day long.

High rates, an excellent quality and a strict observance of agrotechnical requirements are the most important factors in sowing. There can be no trifles here. Many problems--soil cultivation, stone removal, field leveling, a uniform application of organic and mineral fertilizers, seed treatment, the depth of seed placement and so forth--should be in the center of attention of specialists and farmers. Good news arrives from many farms: Grain growers now observe the quality of sowing work with particular care. However, there are also other facts. A few days ago the specialists of the republic's Ministry of Agriculture visited kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Vil'nyusskiy, Shal'chininskiy and Shirvintskiy Rayons, uncovering obvious deviations from agrotechnical rules on some of them. For example, here and there untreated seeds were sown. It would seem that the appropriate rayon administrations of agriculture should make the culprits strictly responsible for this.

In his speech at the festive meeting in Tashkent Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted that, to improve the supply of foodstuffs for the population, it is necessary to greatly increase the volumes of agricultural production in all the country's regions. Workers in Lithuanian rural areas will have to greatly increase the output of grain, potatoes, sugar beets, flax and vegetables and the volumes of fodder procurement. The republic's farms now have a stock of seeds and other possibilities for an expansion of potato crops. Every measure should be taken to cultivate potatoes on every kolkhoz and sovkhoz.

There is a saying among the people: As you work in spring, so will you reap during the harvest season. Spring sowing is a serious test for farmers. It is necessary to do everything to pass it honorably. The fate of the harvest and of the socialist obligations for the second year of the 11th Five-Year Plan and in honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR is largely decided today.

11,439

CSO: 1824/306

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

REPORT ON SPRING FIELD WORK IN STAVROPOL'SKIY KRAY

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 82 pp 1-2

/Article by V. Pankratov, PRAVDA correspondent, Stavropol'skiy Kray: "The Stavropol' Complex"/

/Excerpts/ Spring in the Stavropol' area was cold and protracted. It was almost 1 month late. The warm weather set in only recently. The work schedule had to be condensed. The skills of machine operators save the situation. A total of 900 machine and tractor complexes operate in the field. Many farms harrowed the fall field, topdressed winter crops and sowed early grain crops rapidly and in a high-quality manner.

The wide development of zonal farming systems is becoming a characteristic feature of this spring. By means of them grain growers expect to raise the fertility of fields and to protect arable land against the destructive effect of dust storms.

The time when sizable areas were allocated for spring crops in Apanasenkovskiy Rayon is not so distant. At the beginning of the 10th Five-Year Plan they occupied more than 27 percent of the areas sown with grain crops. But the yield of spring crops was 5 to 7 quintals lower than that of winter crops. Farmers on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin were the first to expand the areas sown with winter crops. Other farms followed their example.

"We now occupy more than 90 percent of the areas assigned for grain crops with winter wheat," says I. Koshel', first secretary of the rayon party committee. "The increase in the yield of the hectare convinces us that we acted correctly. For clarity we will compare the figures of the average annual grain output: during the Eighth Five-Year Plan, about 125,000 tons, during the Ninth Five-Year Plan, slightly less than 133,000 tons and during the 10th Five-Year Plan, more than 178,000 tons."

As already noted, Apanasenkovskiy Rayon belongs to the first farming zone, which is most complex for the kray. However, its farms are among the advanced farms in the competition. Having completed last year's harvest campaign, they sold 260 tons of grain per 100 hectares to the state. How does this indicator look among its neighbors?

On the eve of spring field work the kray party committee held an economic conference. Secretaries of rayon party committees, chairmen of rayon executive committees, managers of kolkhozes and sovkhoses, agricultural specialists and scientists were invited to it. The success of the people of Apanasenkovskiy Rayon was compared with the results of other rayons under the same soil and climatic conditions. An analysis showed that from the same 100 hectares farms in Levokumskiy Rayon provided 52 tons, in Arzgirskiy Rayon, 41 tons and in Turkmenskii Rayon, 31 tons of grain less for state purchases. Although each of them has increased the yield of fields considerably in the last few years, local farmers still have unutilized potentials.

Fallow has become an important component of the farming system developed by specialists of kolkhozes and sovkhoses and scientists of the Stavropol' Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture for the kray's two soil and climatic zones. Grain growers, having skillfully applied soil protective technology, reclamation of solonchaks and other agrotechnical methods, increased the productivity of arable land and attained a certain harvest stability. Farms in 14 rayons included in these two zones give the kray more than one-half of the average annual grain output.

The cooperation between practical workers and scientists is not limited to the development and introduction of zonal farming systems. Together they select the most productive crop varieties, giving preference to drought-resistant varieties. Sizeable areas are occupied by Bezostaya-1, Donskaya Ostistaya and Prikumskaya-55 wheats, which yield more stable harvests under local conditions.

What effect did the mastering of zonal systems bring farms? The specialists with whom we had occasion to talk noted that the productivity of arable land rose. For example, during the 10th Five-Year Plan the yield increased from 16 to 18.5 quintals of grain. Despite the fact that in the last 10 years the proportion of the areas sown with grain crops was reduced by almost 3 percent, their average annual gross output increased by 280,000 tons.

Indicators are much lower in the rayons that belong to the third, fourth and fifth soil and climatic zones. Arable land is most fertile here. However, the farming system is less refined. Along with grain crops the region's farms cultivate sunflower seeds, hybrid corn and sugar beets. The gross output of grain crops grows slowly and in the fifth zone, in which the Karachayevo-Cherkesskaya Autonomous Oblast is included, it was even lowered.

"In each of the five zones, into which 34 administrative rayons are divided," says V. Murakhovskiy, first secretary of the Stavropol'skiy Kray Party Committee, "there are advanced farms, whose experience can be of use to all kolkhozes and sovkhoses. Party organizations, having carefully analyzed the achievements of advanced workers, try to more widely introduce the methods of their labor. Now this is of special importance. After all, the kray's grain growers plan to increase the yield of grain crops to 24 or 25 quintals and the gross output of grain to no less than 4.5 or 5 million tons."

The experience of such farms as the Kaz'minskiy Kolkhoz is taken into consideration when the farming system is developed. Previously made mistakes are analyzed. It often happened that, contrary to agrotechnical rules, wheat was sown on one place for 3 or 4 years in succession.

For example, many miscalculations were made in Trunovskiy Rayon for a long time. It pertains to the third soil and climatic zone and has vast areas of irrigated land. The power-worker ratio in agricultural production reached 40 hp there, which is almost nine units higher than the general kray level. Meanwhile, gross income per 100 hectares of land dropped for several years in succession. For example, during the Eighth Five-Year Plan the average annual grain output totaled 111,000 tons, during the Ninth Five-Year Plan, 119,000 tons and during the 10th Five-Year Plan it dropped to 106,000 tons. True, last year was productive. A total of 165,000 tons of grain were obtained. However, in order to consolidate their success, rayon workers must still do a great deal of work. There are still farms where, as before, the dates of field work and crop rotation are not observed. Similar shortcomings also exist on some farms in Kochubeyevskiy, Krasnogvardeyskiy and Shpakovskiy Rayons.

Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in these zones underestimate pulse crops. The areas under them were reduced considerably, grain output was lowered and biological methods of fertility restoration were violated.

Organic and mineral fertilizers are of paramount importance for all soil and climatic zones in the Stavropol' area. The phosphorus deficit in arable land is felt especially acutely and there are not enough trace elements. Farming is still carried out with a negative nutrient balance. Measures are taken to replenish it more rapidly. For example, last year 15.4 million tons of organic fertilizers, which was 3.7 tons per hectare of arable land, were carted out to fields. It cannot be said that soil fertilization with nutrients is sufficient, but 3 years ago arable land received one-half of them. Local fertilizers are now applied in a concentrated way, mainly to fallow fields, where every hectare receives 55 tons.

The efficiency of work of grain growers on an increase in soil fertility is lowered seriously owing to the irregular delivery of mineral fertilizers. Approximately 40 percent of the mineral fertilizers are received only during the fourth quarter. For example, last year it was impossible to obtain a significant part of superphosphate from Sumgait. The Balakovo Chemical Plant, which is supposed to supply double granulated superphosphate to grain growers in the Stavropol' area, lets them down constantly.

The set of soil cultivating implements, which should correspond to the characteristics of every zone, is poor. The heavy BDT-7 harrows proved their value in the kray, but farms are short of about 2,000 of them. Machine operators register many complaints about the quality of machines.

Farms in the Stavropol' area search for methods of combining technological operations connected with land cultivation. It is a pity that the pool of combined units is replenished slowly. Some innovations proposed by scientists are not put into series production for years.

Many machines can be manufactured with interchangeable working elements. Then the range of their utilization would become wider and it would be possible to more fully take into consideration the soil and climatic characteristics of the regions where such equipment is used.

11,439

CSO: 1824/292

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

GEORGIAN EARLY POTATO CROP SURVEYED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Aug 82 p 1

[Article: "Early Potatoes"]

[Text] When we speak of the fruits of the Georgian soil we are reminded first of all of grapes, tea, tangerines, aromatic herbs, and condiments for meat dishes . . . but recently at the board of the USSR Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry they were discussing Georgian potatoes. They considered the current state of affairs and the prospects for the future. The first deputy minister of the Georgian SSR Fruit and Vegetable Industry, D. Magalashvili told our correspondent:

Georgia is also a traditional supplier of early potatoes. For many years the republic has been raising approximately 10,000 tons of early ripening strains of potatoes which are harvested in June.

This year Georgian farmers have decided to expand the production of early potatoes and increase it to 82,000 tons of tubers. The union wide supply will receive 50,000 of these.

To increase potato production eight-fold is not a simple task. The first question to arise was where to plant this crop. In Georgia with its favorable climate there is not a single empty hectare. Therefore we critically reviewed the crop rotations in Bolnisskiy and Marneul'skiy Rayons. More land was allotted for potatoes.

The plans were buttressed with serious organizational work. Highly productive technical equipment was brought into both rayons. Specialized teams and brigades were created. During the winter months 250 machine operators went through retraining in courses for potato growers.

All of the farms were fully supplied with seed potatoes. The potato growers sorted, calibrated and vernalized the seeds. Everything possible is being done in order to plant the potatoes earlier than usual. All of the farms want to produce the first young potatoes as early as May this year.

Naturally, success must be achieved not only by quantity, but also by ability. If one looks at the productivity of the potatoes one sees that it varied quite a bit. Thus the Fakhralovskiy Sovkhoz obtained 130 quintals of tubers per hectare last year and its neighbor, the Sarachlovskiy Sovkhoz, which has the same soil and climate conditions, obtained only 96 quintals. Therefore the specialists are devoting a good deal of attention to introducing the practice of the leading workers and raising the level of the agrotechnology. The fallow for all of the areas to be planted in potatoes was plowed in the autumn. Each hectare received 120 kilograms of phosphorous fertilizers.

Will our potato program not influence the production of the main kinds of agricultural products; will we not have to reduce deliveries of grapes, tea and citrus fruits? There is no cause for concern here. On the contrary, under the current five-year plan the republic will increase the production of fruits and vegetables almost 1.5-fold. The average annual yield of tea will increase by 13 percent. It has been decided to achieve this increase mainly through increasing productivity. The earmarked plans are being actively implemented. In his greeting Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev noted that agricultural workers of the Georgian SSR raised a good crop last year under difficult weather conditions and successfully fulfilled their plans and commitments for sale to the state of tea leaves, grapes, citrus fruits, grain, vegetables, potatoes and other farm products. In the anniversary year these successes will be reinforced and developed.

11772

CSO: 1824/302

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SHORTAGE OF SEEDS OF PULSE CROPS ON FARMS IN GEORGIA

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 28 Jan 82 p 2

/Article by E. Chikava, chief of the Administration of Information and Forecasting of the Georgian SSR Ministry of Agriculture: "Full Readiness for Spring"/

/Excerpts/ The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Additional Measures for the Preparation for and Performance of Spring Field Work in 1982" was published in the press a few days ago. It determines specific measures, which enable kolkhozes and sovkhoses to complete the preparation for spring in an organized manner and to sow on a high agrotechnical level.

What foundation for the future harvest are the republic's farmers establishing? We will begin from the fact that for the 1982 harvest winter grain crops were sown on 143,700 hectares on the republic's public farms. At present crops on 35,300 hectares are in a good state and on 96,800 hectares, in a satisfactory state, but on 11,600 hectares seedlings have developed very poorly. It is possible that these areas may have to be resown. Crops are being topdressed with mineral fertilizers. This has already been done on 23,800 hectares.

To fill the spring sowing program, the republic's public farms need 228,990 quintals of seeds of pulse crops (without corn). By the beginning of January, in fact, 175,238 quintals, or 77 percent of the plan, were allocated. A total of 170,760 quintals out of the allocated seeds were tested and 145,618 quintals, that is, only 64 percent, were standard. Farms in Khashurskiy, Goriyskiy, Sagaredzhoy-skiy, Telavskiy, Kvarel'skiy, Dushetskiy, Tetritskaroy'skiy, Sachkher'skiy, Chokhataurskiy, Tsulukidzevskiy, Vanskiy and Lanchkhutskiy Rayons and in the zone of the city of Tkibuli experience a great shortage of seeds of spring crops.

There is a shortage of bean seeds on farms in Akhaltsikhskiy, Karel'skiy, Gurdzhanskii, Telavskiy, Akhmet'skiy, Bolnisskiy, Dushetskiy, Tianetskiy, Onskiy and Geghchorskiy Rayons and in the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast. Public farms in Abashskiy and Tskhakayeveskiy Rayons and in the zone of the city of Tkibuli do not have bean seeds at all.

A total of 15,875 quintals of seeds are needed for the sowing of soybeans for grain. In fact, 8,945 quintals, of which 6,740 quintals, or 42.5 percent, are standard, have been allocated. A total of 19 rayons are short of the seeds of this crop. This includes public farms in Goriyskiy, Samtredskiy, Abashskiy, Zugdidskiy and Lanchkhutskiy Rayons, in the Abkhazskaya ASSR and in the zone of the city of Tkibuli. Public farms in Signakhskiy and Telavskiy Rayons do not have soybean seeds at all.

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

FLOODING CAUSES HEAVY DAMAGE IN GEORGIA

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 10 Apr 82 p 4

/Article: "Stronger Than the Element"/

/Text/ A week passed after the flooding in West Georgia, which did considerable damage to the cities of Kutaisi, Zugdidi, Zestafoni, Chiatura, Tkibuli, Tskhaltubo, Khashuri and Poti and to dozens of rural areas and settlements in Lanchkhutskiy, Terzhol'skiy, Vansk'y, Abashskiy, Khobskiy, Mayakovskiy, Samtredskiy, Tskhakayevskiy, Ordzhonikidzevskiy and other rayons.

People courageously fought against the element. Headquarters for the fight against the natural calamity were established in all the cities and rayons that were victims of the flooding. However, the losses are substantial. Dozens of kilometers of asphalted and gravel roads and bank reinforcing structures on the Rioni, Sulori, Kummuri, Suramela and other rivers were destroyed and water flooded the homes of many residents and demolished bridges and poles of electric transmission lines. Great damage was done to agriculture. Dozens of hectares of areas sown with winter and vegetable crops were flooded in Zestafonskiy Rayon alone and hundreds of hectares of plantings of onions and winter crops and of land prepared for the sowing of corn and grapes were washed away in Mayakovskiy Rayon.

In particular, areas sown with annual crops greatly suffered in all agricultural regions. Water flooded dozens of hectares of areas sown with oats, wheat and sainfoin and hundreds of hectares of vegetables and washed away many head of large-horned cattle.

As the directors of headquarters told the correspondent of the State Information Agency of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers, it was calm everywhere and the entire population of cities and rayons joined in the elimination of the consequences of the natural calamity. Militia workers give invaluable help to residents. The repair of buildings has begun. Power and water supply has been restored. Municipal, trade and public dining services and medical aid are beginning to operate. Students in all schools have begun their studies.

The Zestafoni Ferroalloy Plant and the Vartsikhskaya GES are in full operation. Trains are again operating on schedule. Roads, bridges, artificial structures and relieving walls are being put in order in Kutaisi, Poti, Chiatura, Zestafoni, Khashuri and other cities and rayon centers. Fields and plantations are being cleared

of drift and livestock farms are being repaired. Additional agricultural equipment is coming to the aid of kolkhoz members and sovkhos workers. Large amounts of cement, slate and other building materials are being shipped to the cities and rayons that suffered.

People are stronger than the element. The heroic acts performed in West Georgia these days clearly indicate this.

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CSO: 1824/301

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

IMPROVEMENT IN LAND UTILIZATION IN KUBAN' URGED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 82 pp 1-2

/Article by K. Aksenov, PRAVDA correspondent, Krasnodarskiy Kray: "The Grain Field of the Kuban'"/

/Excerpt/ A crucial time--sowing--has arrived in rural areas. Grain growers live with their concerns for the harvest.

PRAVDA is beginning the publication of materials on the course of the competition among farmers from the spring fields of the Kuban'. From the country's main granaries the newspaper's correspondents will report on how rural workers are striving for an increase in output and how they are strengthening the cooperation with the collectives of enterprises procuring and processing field products.

During the 10th Five-Year Plan, as compared with the Ninth Five-Year Plan, the people of the Kuban' increased grain production by approximately 12 percent. They began to obtain 2.7 quintals of grain per hectare more. The fact that harvests are becoming more stable especially gladdens us. No matter what surprises the weather brought, less than 30.9 quintals of grain per hectare were not obtained. Many people remember that at times annual fluctuations in the yield totaled 1 ton of grain.

"The changes," notes S. Medunov, first secretary of the kray party committee, "are connected with the increased assistance of the state to rural areas and with the intensified attention of the party organizations of farms and all party members to the field and to the harvest. The socialist competition for a high standard of farming expanded on their initiative. Its essence is to increase the strength of our chernozem. We try to teach people to utilize every patch of land sensibly and competently."

More than 3,000 large mechanized detachments and links are engaged in sowing. Most of them have been transferred to the job-contract-plus-bonus wage system. A total of 13,000 party members head the competition for the best performance of field operations. They show an example of shock labor.

In the kray, where, essentially, all land has been plowed up and where considerable tracts of land are still used for construction, in 10 years the grain wedge was increased by approximately 200,000 hectares. On the whole, sown areas were

expanded. Unsuitable land was put to use. For example, seeding units can now also be seen on narrow strips squeezed between roads, estates of former farmsteads and tiny round areas. There are no islets of uncultivated arable land near telephone posts or poles of electric transmission lines. Industrious hands also loosened the soil there and placed seeds in it. Let ears grow.

"There was the opinion that our chernozem is omnipotent and that one can only take from it without putting anything in it," V. Gurkalov, chairman of the Rodina Kol-khoz in Pavlovskiy Rayon, says. "Meanwhile, the arable land became impoverished. Harvests did not grow."

The strength of Kuban' fields is well known. However, it too is not limitless. The higher the harvests, the greater the removal of nutrients and the more active and rapid their replenishment must be. Today this has become the rule almost everywhere. We and Vladimir Fedorovich arrived at the field where sowing was going on. The chairman brought joyful news to machine operators. The title of "kol-khoz of a high standard of farming" has just been conferred on the farm. Plant growing has risen especially rapidly here in the last few years.

"What happened?"

"The application of local fertilizers was doubled," says Gurkalov. "We utilize more than 90,000 tons of manure annually."

A large cost accounting detachment was established there. All year round machine operators deliver litter to farms and correctly store and promptly apply manure. This example is characteristic of many farms in the kray. During the past 5-year period fields obtained 145 million tons of organic fertilizers. No less than 6 to 7 tons per hectare are now applied, which is 3.5 times as much as during the Eighth Five-Year Plan.

Of course, even such an amount of organic fertilizers is by no means sufficient for the soil. Therefore, the production of local fertilizers has now been made an independent service. A total of 550 fertility detachments were established and their wages were made dependent on the fulfillment of the plans for the procurement and quality of fertilizers. Areas were equipped for them and capital storage facilities were built.

Together with rural specialists and farm managers party committees and bureaus did a great deal to also interest livestock breeders financially in such important matters. They sell their by-products to field crop growers at 1½ to 2 rubles per ton.

Potentials still exist here. They are not fully utilized everywhere. For example, farmers in Dinskiy and Kanevskiy Rayons now apply 11 to 12 tons of organic fertilizers per hectare of arable land. In Novopokrovskiy and Krylovskiy Rayons fields receive much less. Hence the results. For example, during the Ninth Five-Year Plan Krylovskiy Rayon obtained only 3 quintals of grain per hectare less than Kanevskiy Rayon, but during the 10th Five-Year Plan the lag was 10.8 quintals. Yields did not grow during those years. It is not in vain that people say: If you cheat the field of its fair share, you steal from yourself...

In the kray a great deal is done to increase the output of organic and mineral fertilizers. In order to bring nutrients closer to plants, the local root method of their application was introduced widely.

"We plan to obtain 60 quintals of grain per hectare now," says A. Mel'nik, manager of the department of the Kolkhoz imeni Kirov in Leningradskiy Rayon. "This unit will help. It loosens the soil before sowing."

At first glance it seems like an ordinary harrow bar. However, it is ingenious. Knife bars are attached to frames and hoses from a barrel fixed on a tractor are extended to them. During movement arable land is easily broken and the nutrient solution "fills" it, directly entering plant roots.

Research is a laudable endeavor. Farmers have great opportunities for it. But the following thought occurs when one becomes familiar with other "articles" of local craftsmen. Why do trailer implements, coming off the conveyer, need serious finishing work? Is it not simpler and cheaper for machine builders to improve their products at plant shops?

Mechanized units for the preparation of liquid organic solutions have been built on all farms near large sections and complexes. They are applied with reequipped cultivators directly to the soil and to plant roots. A hectare receives 2 to 3 tons of liquid fertilizers in one tractor operation.

This experience was evaluated a long time ago. In the Kuban' 300 dissolving units now operate and more than 3,000 machines for the application of mixtures have been manufactured. However, is the efficient method willingly mastered everywhere? Approximately one-half of the farms do not have devices for the preparation of solutions. They lose a great deal on this. Replenishment of soil fertility is a matter of paramount importance. It is hardly possible to justify the condescending attitude of local party, Soviet and economic bodies to those that are little concerned with increasing the strength of the hectare.

The kray has seriously embarked on the introduction of proper order on land. Agrotechnical methods and herbicides are mainly used in weed control. Weed "nurseries"--shoulders of roads and rights of way--have been plowed over. Fields have become much clearer of weeds.

A scientifically substantiated plant density is another task connected with a better utilization of land. Specialists have determined the optimum seeding rates. The advantage is considerable. For example, let us take sugar beets. As a result of the increase in the number of plants per hectare alone, during the five-year plan approximately 2 million tons of additional output was obtained from the same plantations.

This year there are no "windows" customary for the Kuban' and the warm weather is late. The sowing time has to be "condensed." On a number of farms people also work on the field at night and two-shift work has been introduced. Cultural and domestic services have been organized quite well. Winter crops are being inspected. Not all the tracts of land gladden us. The weakened crops have to be fed intensively. Here and there winter crops have been drenched. However, even these

plots--and they are not so big--will not be empty. When the earth dries up, fodder crops will be placed here. Grain growers strictly observe the following rule: Not a patch of empty land.

About 2 million hectares are allocated for spring crops in the kray. A great deal is now being done to sow them on time and on good soil, to ensure a good care of winter crops and to establish a firm foundation for the harvest. Strict control over the preservation of the grain wedge has been established.

Grain growers in the Kuban' intend to sell 4.25 million tons of grain to the state, to obtain 35 to 36 quintals of grain per hectare and to increase the output of corn, rice, sunflower seeds and sugar beets. These plans are not easy. However, thinking about tomorrow and about the possibilities of local fields, specialists believe that chernozem can and should give more. There are potentials for this. They lie in an increase in land fertility. The efforts of party members and workers in the kray are now concentrated on this important direction.

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

BRIEFS

UNREGULATED LINKS--Rostov-on-Don--Almost 60,000 machine operators joined the fight for the harvest on the spring field of Rostovskaya Oblast. Many of them formed unregulated links. Eleven rayons began selective harrowing. From the first hours a heated competition developed on fields. Throughout the oblast in 1 day harrowing was carried out on an area of almost 150,000 hectares. /By V. Konovalov/ /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

SPRING FIELD WORK--Rostov-on-Don--"Spring field work must be of an excellent quality!" This May Day Appeal of the CPSU Central Committee became the slogan of socialist competition among Don's machine operators. Farmers in Sal'skiy Rayon needed only 58 work hours to complete the sowing of early grain and pulse crops. Farmers in Peschanokopskiy and Orlovskiy Rayons also reported on the sowing of spring crops. Machine operators in Azovskiy, Proletarskiy and Zernogradskiy Rayons are placing seeds in soil on the last hectares. Farms in the oblast's north have begun sowing today. The first 350,000 hectares of arable land have been sown in the oblast. Nor is labor enthusiasm weakening on the farms that are completing sowing. Machine operators are topdressing winter crops and preparing soil for row crops. /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

CHOICE GRAIN--Rostov-on-Don, 5 Apr--Farmers in the Sal'sk Steppe are the first in the Don to begin the sowing of early spring crops today. In the year of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR the rayon's workers decided to produce no less than 500,000 tons of choice grain. The unstable rainy weather of this spring required experience and skills from machine operators in the preparation for the sowing campaign. Everything was done to complete sowing in 50 hours. Equipment underwent an additional check. More than 80 tractor sowing complexes were staffed for two-shift operation. The traffic routes of sowing units and servicing brigades were worked out carefully. The necessary amount of fertilizers was stored for their simultaneous application to soil with seeds. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

EARLY SPRING CROPS--Machine operators in Sal'skiy Rayon, Rostovskaya Oblast, have begun the sowing of early spring crops. They intend to complete this work on an area of almost 40,000 hectares in 50 hours. /Text/ /Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 15, Apr 82 p 3/ 11,439

SOWING IN NORTH CAUCASUS--The scale of sowing operations is expanding in North Caucasus every day. Our correspondent asked V. S. Yemel'yanov, deputy chief of the Main Production Administration of the North Caucasian Region of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture, to discuss the characteristics of the present spring campaign in the region. "The areas sown with many labor intensive crops will be greatly expanded on farms in North Caucasus this year. For example, corn for grain will occupy 790,000 hectares--400,000 more than in 1980. Sunflower seeds will be sown on 122,000 hectares and soybeans, on 88,000 hectares. The region's farmers will cultivate sugar beets for the first time." /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Mar 82/ 11,439

LATE SPRING IN DAGESTAN--Makhachkala--Spring in Dagestan is the most capricious time of the year. Sometimes it is warm and sometimes, cold. As soon as lucerne began to be sown in Tarumovskiy Rayon, which is on the western coast of the Caspian Sea, snow fell heavily. But 100 km further south it is sufficiently warm. Lucerne is being sown in the Babayurtovskaya zone, where the land of many farms in the republic's mountain regions is located. Lucerne is also being sown further south, that is, in Kizilyurtovskiy Rayon, which is famous in Dagestan for its high standard of farming. What about other spring crops? Valentina Yegorovna Okhri-menko, chief agronomist of Dagestan's Ministry of Agriculture, answers this question: "Obviously, spring is late this year. As yet the weather does not make it possible to sow spring grain crops on a mass scale. Therefore, waiting for the warm weather, the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhoses continue to cart out organic fertilizers to fields and topdress and harrow winter crops." /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

INDUSTRIAL CROP CULTIVATION TECHNOLOGY--Cherkessk--Spring is late now. Farmers in Karachayevo-Cherkesiya went out to fields for the first time only at the end of the second 10-day period in March and then the northern wind blew and snow fell heavily. However, the test of strength before the campaign showed the chief thing: The oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhoses prepared themselves well for the field season. A great deal of new equipment was delivered to farmers since the beginning of the year. This will make it possible to widely introduce the industrial technology of agricultural crop cultivation into practice. Corn, as well as sugar beet and potato, growers have now adopted it. ... And again the warm weather came. Units went out to the field together. /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

DELAYED FIELD WORK--The calendar shows that the first spring month has arrived. However, warm days are obviously late. Even in the republic's southern oblasts snow did not disappear and the earth did not thaw out, which does not make it possible to begin field work. This circumstance requires from farmers a special collectedness and readiness to take machines out to fields at any moment, as soon as the weather permits. /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

CORN CULTIVATION IN DAGESTAN--The Dagestanskaya ASSR--As is well known, until recently Dagestan did not belong to commodity grain production regions. Moreover, it was not considered a corn region. However, the intensification of farming and animal husbandry in the republic changed the tradition and expanded the areas sown with corn as the most highly productive crop. Utilizing industrial technology,

this year farmers intend to obtain, primarily on irrigated land, twice as much corn grain as in 1980, which was a productive year. In brief, in North Caucasus Dagestan now receives the baton of the "golden ear." The transition to industrial technology sets new tasks for the Scientific Production Association for Agrochemical Services to Agriculture. One does not need to be an agrochemist to transport unmeasured and unweighed fertilizers from a station. Unfortunately, on a number of farms plantations are not provided with soil cartograms. To this day the Kizlyar Scientific Production Association for Agrochemical Services to Agriculture does not have its own agrochemical laboratory. Naturally, nor do farms have them. Is it possible to efficiently utilize mineral fertilizers under such conditions? Of course, not. But without this the programmed harvest cannot be obtained. /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

SPRING SOWING OF LUCERNE--Spring came to the Central Terek 2 weeks late and this violated the traditional order of the spring campaign. The sowing of both early crops and those that, seemingly, are supposed to wait for their turn expanded simultaneously. This requires from grain growers not only an efficient organization of work, but also high skills. On the land beyond the Terek in Shelkovskiy Rayon the first and main spring field is now assigned to lucerne crops. This year the people of Shelkovskiy Rayon will send 300 tons of valuable seed supplies to addresses in the Russian Federation and other republics. The farm solves the problem of the sector's formation not in detriment to the interests of its own feed base. Therefore, not only seed crops, but also for the harvesting of vitamin hay, are expanded simultaneously. In order to perform the increased volume of top-priority work at the best time, time is literally counted in hours. For example, according to the campaign plan 6 days were allocated for presowing harrowing. But farmers were able to cope with this work in 70 hours. Of course, the example of the people of Shelkovskiy Rayon--leaders in the sowing competition--should become mobilizing for all the rayons in the autonomous republic. In Checheno-Ingushetiya 22,000 hectares are occupied with spring-sown lucerne. The sector that is being established ensures the delivery of about 900 tons of first-grade seeds as early as this year. At the end of the five-year plan many rayons in the Russian Federation and, especially, farms located in the nonchernozem zone will begin to annually receive about 4,000 tons of lucerne seeds from the banks of the Terek. /By S. Madayev and A. Podol'skiy/ /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

BAD WEATHER CONDITIONS--The day promised to be clear. Not procrastinating, machine operators moved equipment to the field. However, by 9 o'clock in the morning the weather changed sharply. Suddenly, the earth swelled from the rain under tractor wheels. The grain grower will not throw grain on such soil. No matter how pressing the sowing time may be, the quality of sowing must not be risked. The weather conditions changed the plans of the farmers on the Lenino Kyalyu Kolkhoz in Ukmergskiy Rayon. Although they are not used to the whims of the weather, now, as never before, they are worried about the fate of the harvest. The winter brought an unpleasant surprise. On some tracts of land winter crops will have to be partially resown and on others, even fully. When the meteorological report is broadcast, Eugeniya Krishtaponene, chief agronomist of the farm, listens to it hopefully. Again rain! "We will not wait for favors from nature," the "conductor" of the sowing campaign repeats the famous words and orders: "We are going to the field." Grain growers on the Lenino Kyalyu Kolkhoz noted the following in the first paragraph of their socialist obligations for the anniversary year: "To obtain 32 quintals of grain crops per hectare." These days, taking advantage of every hour of good weather and skillfully maneuvering equipment in sowing, they are doing everything so that the local ear may have a full weight. /By T. Doval'/ /Excerpts/ /Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 22 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

YIELD OF GRAIN CROPS--Many winter crops died this year. All these areas must be resown with spring grain crops and, where the situation can be rectified, fields must be additionally fed. Agricultural aviation must be better utilized for the application of fertilizers. Grain production is the chief thing. The conference stressed that the yield of grain crops must be increased on all, especially lagging, farms. This means that more attention should be paid not only to the quality of sowing, but also to an early care of crops. Now it is necessary to sow many more pulse crops. It is important to expand the areas sown with potatoes. All farms should cultivate them. It is necessary to take measures to increase the yield of potatoes, sugar beets, corn and other crops. /Excerpt/ /Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 16 Apr 82 p 17 11,439

SPRING FIELD WORK--Stavropol'skiy Kray--Every morning reports, operational data and the results of the daily competition are placed on the table of Yu. A. Bocharnikov, chief of the rayon headquarters for spring work, first secretary of the Georgiyevskiy Rayon Party Committee. Together with the managers of seven operational groups Yuriy Alekseyevich analyzes the data, maps out the plans of actions of active members, maneuvers equipment and reviews the results of the day. The volume of work in the rayon is considerable, that is, to retain moisture on 63,000 hectares, to sow early crops on 58,300 hectares and to prepare 4,000 hectares for the cultivation of corn according to industrial technology, 3,000 hectares, of sugar beets, 1,400 hectares, of soybeans and 300 hectares, of castor-oil plants. A total of 38 complexes with 463 seeders and 306 cultivators operate in the field. Only first-category seeds are used. The agrochemical service saw to it that, in addition, 1,100 tons of mineral fertilizers were obtained. Machine operators of 43 sowing complexes went out to the field in Sovetskiy Rayon. Work schedules were also specified there in accordance with the ripening of soil. To accelerate the sowing campaign, all units were staffed with two shifts of machine operators and hot food was organized. Machine operators of 20 specialized links also embarked on a 100-hour shock watch. They will cultivate crops according to industrial technology. Work is expanding ever more widely on the spring field in Novoaleksandrovskiy, Izo-bil'nenskiy, Neftekumskiy and other rayons in the kray. Everywhere farmers decided to complete spring work in 100 work hours, setting scientifically substantiated methods against the whims of nature and utilizing the experience of past years. One concern unites them--to consolidate the success achieved in 1981 and to also obtain a high harvest during the second year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. /By S. Timofeyev/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 17 11,439

LABOR-INTENSIVE CROPS--Stavropol'skiy Kray--Under the conditions of this spring the obligation is very intensive. The steppe, which quite recently was covered with a snow fall unprecedented in these regions, is drying up poorly. Every now and then it rains. Despite this in the east of Stavropol' workers in Arzgirskiy, Apanasenkovskiy and Neftekumskiy Rayons coped with the complex task. During this difficult spring the people of Stavropol'skiy Kray intend to widely introduce a technology that will make it possible to reduce the expenditures of labor on the cultivation of labor-intensive crops--sugar beets, sunflowers and corn for grain. Kochubeyevskiy Rayon is one of the main producers of these crops in the kray. More than 7,000 hectares have now been allocated for sugar beets and almost 8,000 hectares, for sunflower seeds and corn occupies 5,000 hectares. Last year, however, the rayon did not gather the planned harvests. The reasons for the lack of success were analyzed carefully and the following conclusion was reached: There are

not enough people for manual weeding and weeds do considerable damage. Following eastern rayons the rates of the sowing campaign on the fields of rayons in other zones are becoming increasingly higher. The youth brigades of machine operators in Krasnogvardeyskiy Rayon decided to manage it in no more than 2 or 3 days, like the best collectives. The people of Ipatovskiy Rayon, who last year again demonstrated their ability with the high harvest of grain crops, as always are expanding work confidently and skillfully. Ever newer experts are going out to the field. /By P. Gus'kov/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

MOISTURE RETENTION--Levokumskoye (Stavropol'skiy Kray), 30 Mar--An almost immediate transition to summer after the cold weather and snow falls is the distinctive feature of southern springs. The rapid rise in temperature enabled machine operators in Stavropol'skiy Kray to selectively begin moisture retention. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Levokumskiy Rayon were among the first to move tractor units with harrow hitches to the field. The land of the people of Levokumskoye is in the most sukhovoy Caspian zone of the kray. However, skillful agricultural technology enables them to reap stable harvests under difficult climatic conditions. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 31 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

FIELD WORK IN KUBAN'--Krasnodarskiy Kray--Spring is a time of stepped-up field work. In the Kuban' the weather is not yet favorable for sowing. The prolonged cold weather hinders farmers. Machine operators maximally utilize every hour of fine weather and work with double energy. Farms in Anapskiy, Krymskiy, Temryukskiy, Slavyanskiy and other rayons are sowing perennial grass, peas and early vegetables. Spring crops already occupy 20,000 hectares of arable land in the kray. Much attention is paid to winter crops. They are being topdressed with mineral fertilizers everywhere. Farms in Bryukhovetskiy Rayon pay much attention to the areas sown with winter crops. It was decided to grow wheat of strong and durum varieties on the main areas there. Kuban' farmers undertook the obligation to deliver 4.25 million tons of grain to state bins and to increase the proportion of strong and durum wheats in the total volume of procurements to 90 percent during the anniversary year. Rice growers in Slavyanskiy Rayon are preparing themselves to complete the sowing of white grain rapidly and in a high-quality manner. Soil preparation is being completed everywhere and all sowing equipment has been placed in the line of readiness. The scientists of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Rice help farmers in the fight for a high harvest. It was recommended that this year the Slavyanskiy Sovkhoz sow new varieties, that is, Kulon, Zhemchuzhnyy and Prikubanskiy. During the entire vegetative period scientists together with the workers of blue check plots will observe the "new settlers." The seeds of the new varieties have already been brought up to the first category of the sowing standard. /By V. Mokrotovarov/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

CORN SEEDS--Krasnodar, 15 Feb--The workers of the Kanev Grain Product Combine are preparing seeds for sowing ahead of schedule. Recently, they have shipped 240 tons of carefully cleaned, graded and treated seeds of early ripening corn varieties and hybrids. In all the enterprise will bring 1,100 tons of seeds of this valuable crop up to the highest standards. They will be shipped to corn growers in the central regions of the Russian Federation, the Urals and the Volga area. These days equipment is in full operation at the Ust'-Labinsk, Timashevsk, Beloglinskiy and other corn grading plants in the Kuban'. /By Yu. Semenenko/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 16 Feb 82 p 1/ 11,439

RICE FIELD WORK--Krasnodar, 19 Apr--The rice growers' turn has come to engage in field work. Having completed the repair of hydraulic installations, they are now applying fertilizers and loosening and leveling soil. Many farms have taken out seeders to fields. The unusually early sowing time is due to the fact that sowing with a deep placement of seeds was carried out on several thousands of hectares, where the entire set of preparatory operations had been performed in the fall. This method does not require a subsequent flooding of check plots. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

SOWING OF SPRING CROPS--Kuban' farmers have completed the sowing of early spring crops. The seeds of pulse and fodder crops have been placed in soil on almost 500,000 hectares. /Text/ /Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 17, Apr 82 p 3/ 11,439

SNOWY WINTER IN GEORGIA--Unusually snowy winter has come to the mountain regions of our republic. As weather forecasters report, a record amount of snow fell in many game preserves and hunting farms. The height of the snow cover in the Rikotskiy and Suramskiy passes and in the regions of Bakhmaro and Khulo is from 2 to 4 meters. The severe weather has created difficult conditions for forest dwellers. The animals, finding themselves in a disastrous situation, are completely defenseless. Many of them leave "long-occupied" places in search for food and descend to the lower belt of the forest cover. A hare, roe deer, fox and other animals can often be seen near settlements. However, are people always attentive to the quadruped and feathered? Unfortunately, sometimes there are cases of cruel and even malicious violence on the part of poachers against helpless forest dwellers. Intensive work on providing assistance to forest dwellers is now being done in the republic's game preserves and hunting farms. "Restaurants" for the quadruped are being set up everywhere not far from forest tracts. Their menu consists of mixed feed, hay and corn. I believe that the republic's public will actively join in the noble endeavor of saving "our lesser brothers." /By T. Baratashvili, senior hunting specialist of the Main Administration of Hunting of the Georgian SSR Ministry of Forestry/ /Text/ /Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Feb 82 p 4/ 11,439

STEPPED-UP FIELD WORK--"The time when it was considered that winter is a 'dead season' for rural areas is long past," R. Pantskhava, the republic's deputy minister of agriculture, told the TASS correspondent. "In its labor intensity it differs little from summer. Judge for yourselves. Stepped-up work is now going on in almost all the areas of the republic's diversified agriculture. Aviators have begun the spring topdressing of areas sown with winter grain crops and with the completion of the establishment of young plantings in citrus and fruit orchards extensive work on the enrichment of soil with fertilizers and on irrigation has begun." "The whims of nature," R. Pantskhava continues, "which recently have become an almost characteristic feature of every agricultural season, introduce some discord into the course of field work. However, they no longer have a significant effect on it. Rural workers have learned how to fight the element. This has also happened now. Skillfully distributing forces and equipment, vine growers have already cultivated more than one-half of all the plantations. This is a guarantee that their plans--to obtain 1½ to 2 quintals of berries per hectare more than last year--will be fulfilled." As a rule, the sowing of fodder crops begins in the republic at this time of the year. However, instead of sowing units more than 2,000 tractors with attachments for snow retention have now been moved to fields. From the first days of the year, adopting a high rate of work, Georgia's rural workers also intend this time to bring joy to the homeland with high harvests of all agricultural crops. /By R. Akhpatelov/ /Excerpts/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 19 Feb 82 p 1/ 11,439

SOWING OF OATS--Tbilisi--Machine operators in Sagaredzhoyskiy Rayon, who began sowing, sowed oats on 1,000 hectares. In all this crop will occupy 1,500 hectares. The republic's field workers are trying to carry out agricultural work in a high-quality manner in a short time. In Tsiteltskaroykiy Rayon only seeds of the highest reproductions are sown on fields. It was decided to complete sowing on more than 18,000 hectares in 10 to 12 days. Sowing units were also moved to fields on farms in Georgia's other rayons. /By R. Zlatkin/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 18 Mar 82 p 1/ 11,439

SOWING OF SUNFLOWER SEEDS--Tbilisi--Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Tsiteltskaroykiy and Signakhskiy Rayons have begun the sowing of sunflower seeds. The Ipatovo method of group utilization of equipment is widely used. The work of overall detachments is evaluated according to the final results, which stimulates machine operators to strictly fulfill all agrotechnical requirements. In honor of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR Georgia's farmers undertook the obligation to gather 16 quintals of oil seeds per hectare of sunflower seeds. This is 2 quintals more than planned. /By R. Zlatkin/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 3 Apr 82 p 1/ 11,439

LATVIAN SPRING--Spring came early this year. The average daily air temperature rose above freezing as early as 11-12 March, 10-20 days earlier than usual. Throughout the rest of this period the weather was warm and dry. The temperature during the day frequently rose to 10-13 degrees, and on certain days--to 17 degrees. Intensive melting of the snow began in the first half of March, and by the end of the month the snow cover had broken down on almost all of the territory of the republic. The soil melted fast since it was only slightly frozen throughout the winter. Only in certain places in the eastern rayons where the freezing was greater did the frozen layer remain into the first days of April. By the end of March in the western part of the republic the light soils on elevated areas reached a slightly plastic condition. The light soils ripened at the end of the first week in April in some places in the eastern part as well. The spring processes were begun actively, a week ahead of time. The sap began to rise in the birches and the filbert trees and speckled alders began to blossom. In a number of rayons the buds of fruit trees and berry bushes began to swell. Winter crops began to grow again in the western part of the republic. The condition of the areas planted in winter crops was inspected during the first days of April. Compared to the preceding inspection, at the beginning of March, the sparseness had increased. About 26,000 hectares with increased sparseness (more than 10 percent were examined and this included half the area planted in winter wheat and 70 percent of the winter rye. The reasons for this were rotting and snow mold. The winter was very difficult and the plants were weakened. Therefore they must be carefully cared for. In the next few days the cyclone activity of the atmosphere will determine the weather in our territory. Cool temperatures and precipitation are expected. [Text] [Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 13 Apr 82 p 3] 11772

SPRING PLANTING--Riga--The schedules for spring planting that have been drawn up by Latvian farmers are calculated for any weather. The center for planting control that was created on the basis of the republic agricultural dispatcher service helped them in handling this extensive preparatory work. This is the next stage in the introduction of centralized management of agricultural production. According to calculations specialists, this will make it possible to reduce the traditional time periods for conducting basic field work in Latvia by one-fifth. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

SEED MATERIAL--Vilnius--Ninety-five percent of the seeds provided for the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Lithuania are of the first and second class. Taking into account

the capricious Baltic weather and the severe cold spells that mark this winter, the farms have created a supply of seed material which, if necessary, will make it possible to replant up to one-third of the winter crops in the spring. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 29 Jan 82 p 1] 11772

FERTILIZER TOP-DRESSING--Vilnius--The farms of Lithuania have begun to apply mineral fertilizers to crop meadows and pastures. For the first time the top-dressing is being conducted everywhere in keeping with cartograms that have been developed by the rayon agrochemical services. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

LATVIAN FIELD WORK--The recent cold spells and precipitation have affected the course of field work. But still, as one can see from the reports, a number of farms have been able to find dry fields under these conditions, quickly prepare the soil and successfully continue planting. The work is going well on the farms of Dobel'skiy Rayon. In a week the planted areas increased by almost 5,500 hectares, and on the whole this rayon has planted one-third of its grain crops. The planted areas have grown in Talsinskiy, Tukumskiy, Yelgavskiy and several other rayons. The northern and eastern rayons have still not managed to begin even selective planting. Under these conditions it is important to value each hour spent in planting and to work as hard as possible. [Text] [Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 20 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

APRIL COLD SPELLS--According to the old folk calendar in April there is a "day of victory over winter"--this is the seventh. "Spring has conquered winter"--so goes the saying. But this year spring was clearly not victorious in the "fight against winter." On 7 April the temperature during the day remained at several degrees below the norm. In the southeastern part of Latvia there was more snow--from one to four centimeters deep. What can explain these April cold spells? "The breath of outgoing winter is a frequent phenomenon during this month under Baltic conditions," the Riga weather bureau told us. "Northern winds prevail on the territory of the republic. An anticyclone which was formed over Scandinavia is now coming to us. It has driven away the clouds but has brought cold arctic air with it. This time the age-old popular observation is quite justified: "April has never been colder than March or warmer than May." Forecasters predict that in the near future the temperatures will begin to rise gradually. Spring began early this year but the cold spells have impeded the development of the vital processes in nature and they have gone into the average annual norm. And now the trees, bushes and grasses will not be bothered by the night frosts which frequently occur in May. [Text] [Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 4] 11772

SEED STOCK--Vilnius--The provision of first- and second-category seeds comprises 95 percent on Lithuania's kolkhozes and sovkhoses. Taking into consideration the capricious Baltic weather and the harsh cold weather characteristic of this winter, farms have established a seed stock, which, if needed, will make it possible to resow up to one-third of the winter wedge in spring. [Text] [Moscow GUDOK in Russian 29 Jan 82] 11,439

POTATO GROWERS' GOAL--Ordzhonikidze--The specialized farms of Northern Osetiya are planting potatoes by the proven ridging method. This year the potato fields of the autonomous republic will be expanded considerably and new regionalized strains will be planted. The goal of the farmers is to obtain 250-300 quintals of "second grain" per hectare in the foothill zone. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

VEGETABLE PLANTING--Ordzhonikidze--Mass planting of vegetables has been started in the foothill regions of Northern Osetiya. More than 100 mechanized subdivisions have gone out onto the fields. The careful preparation of the areas to be planted is contributing to the high rates of work. The seeds that are being planted in the soil are of new regionalized strains which produce large yields in the foothill zone. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

GEORGIAN HARVEST--What kind of basis are the republic's farmers laying for the future harvest? Cabbage planted as a transitional crop occupies 1,406 hectares instead of the planned 1,355. As soon as the good weather arrives the farms must cultivate the areas planted in it--top-dressing, weeding, treatment and so forth. The ministry envisions creating reserves for overfulfilling the plans for the production and procurements of vegetable crops. In particular, tomatoes will be planted on 2,200-2,300 hectares instead of the planned 1,962 and late cabbage will be planted on 1,400-1,500 hectares instead of the planned 1,100. We shall also plant more than the planned quantity of beets, carrots and cucumbers . . . potatoes will be planted on 13,360 hectares. Fall plowing was done on all of the area allotted for these purposes, and organic and mineral fertilizers were applied before plowing. There is a sufficient quantity of seed materials. The only exception is to be found on the farms of Tsalkskiy Rayon where they did not begin to worry about storing up seeds on time. Measures have now been taken to make up for the shortage that has occurred here. Lagodekhskiy and Sagaredzheyskiy Rayons have displayed good initiative in the matter of producing early potatoes. They dealt with the seeds promptly, prepared the soil well, and at the end of February they will begin to plant potatoes. [Excerpts] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 28 Jan 82 p 1] 11772

EARLY POTATOES--More than 10,000 hectares of land in the eastern part of Georgia have been transformed into a zone for producing early potatoes. An important stage of the work has been completed here--planting the tubers. [Text] [Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 16, Apr 82 p 3] 11772

POTATO PLANTING--Marneuli--Yesterday the last sets of equipment left the fields of Marneul'skiy and Bolnisskiy Rayons--the leading ones in the republic for producing early potatoes. The planting of the tubers was completed at the best time periods. The efficient organization of the work in all of the teams, brigades and farms as well as skillful utilization of technical equipment and progressive labor methods contributed largely to this. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

REDUCED TIME PERIODS--Marneuli--More than 10,000 hectares of land in the eastern part of Georgia have been transformed into a zone for raising early potatoes. An important stage of the work was completed here today--planting the tubers. It was done in reduced time periods and on a high agrotechnical level. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 10 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

ARARAT VALLEY PLANTING--The cold weather that lasted for several days caused a certain amount of trouble for the grape growers of the republic who had to adjust the schedule for spring cultivation of the vineyards. Nonetheless the surprises of the weather cannot serve as a cause for prolonging agricultural measures. This spring the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the republic must plant 113,400 hectares in grain, pulse, feed and silage crops. The farms of the Ararat valley and the lower zone of the foothill region have begun planting spring grain crops. About a thousand hectares have already been planted. In the spring of this year the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the republic must plant potatoes on 10,200 hectares, and 1,070 of them will be planted in early ripening potatoes. The farms of the Ararat valley have already planted 1,108 hectares, thus fulfilling the assignment for planting potatoes. This year the farms of the republic are planting and transplanting seedlings on 11,000 hectares. Hotbed planting has already been completed in 322,000 frames. The vegetable farms have begun planting late ripening onions: 794 of the planned 1,109 hectares have already been planted. In addition to work in the hothouses, they are conducting preplanting cultivation of the areas to be planted in vegetable melon crops. In the next few days seedlings of early cabbage will be brought to the fields. Hothouse planting of tobacco is continuing and has been completed in 110,000 frames. This year sugar beets will be planted on 3,980 hectares and geraniums--on 1,792 hectares. It was noted by the staff that the farms have been basically supplied with seeds of spring crops. The task is for the farms to accelerate the shipment of seeds that are allotted from the state supplies and to conduct the planting with high-quality seed material that has been brought up to the proper condition, and to do this at the best agrotechnical times. [Excerpts] [Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 1 Apr 82 p 1] 11772

CSO: 1824/302

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ESTONIAN AGRICULTURAL PLANS, PROGRESS

Crop Preparations, Livestock Overview

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 14 Apr 82 p 1

/Agricultural review: "Time Does Not Wait"/

/Text/ At the present time, the farmers are devoting a great amount of thought to their spring operations. The preparations for this work have for the most part been completed. The grading of potatoes and the spreading of fertilizer are now being carried out. Pre-plowing cultivation of the soil has already commenced and the first seed has been placed in the ground.

In past years, a large portion of the work was as a rule carried out during the best periods. But this year reserves must be found for carrying out this work in a better manner -- indeed the volume of the spring work surpasses the level for last year. A portion of the plowing work was not completed during the autumn months and the quality of the autumn plowing was worse than usual owing to excessively damp conditions. The grass covers suffered and the snow and unfrozen soil hindered the work of moving the organic fertilizer out onto the fields during the winter months. On 1 April, the amount of farmyard manure moved out onto the fields was 400,000 tons or 8 percent less than that for a year ago.

The successful completion of the spring work is greatly dependent upon the condition of the equipment. The tractors and other machines required for sowing are for the most part in good condition. On 1 April, 96 percent of the tractors and sowing machines, 95 percent of the plows and cultivators and 93 percent of the potato-planters were prepared for moving out onto the fields.

One hundred and twelve percent of the planned supply of certified seed for spring grain and pulse crops is on hand. Thus, despite the requirement for the resowing of rather large areas, caused by the loss of winter crops, sufficient seed is available. A considerable increase has taken place in the areas to be used for rape and other protein-rich forage crops.

Whether or not the spring work is carried out in a high quality manner and during the best periods is entirely dependent upon the machine operators. By no means are all of the farms staffed with permanent machine operator personnel. Thus, persons from other professions, those authorized to operate tractors, must be assigned to these machines. Beyond any doubt, assistance is required from enterprises and

supporting organizations. It is in the spring that the foundation is laid for the harvest that crowns the work of the entire year. Thus the successful carrying out of the field work must be a matter of general concern for all of us.

The operational results of the livestock breeders are not altogether pleasing. The results achieved in carrying out the tasks concerned with the production and sale of animal husbandry products to the state during the first quarter testify to the fact that, notwithstanding their selfless labor, the livestock breeders were unable to maintain the level of last year. The tasks were not fulfilled.

The fact that on 1 April the production of milk at kolkhozes and sovkhoses decreased by 17 percent compared to last year is largely attributed to two principal causes -- the feed shortage and the quality of the feed. The state task for milk sales during the quarter was fulfilled by only 88 percent.

The quarterly plan for the sale of livestock and poultry to the state was over-fulfilled by 6 percent. But this plan, taking into account the scanty supplies of feed, was composed in a manner such that the first 3 months of the year accounted for 16 percent of the annual task. The principal volume of livestock and poultry sales occurred during the second six month period. Thus, this success provides no basis for indifference, particularly in view of the fact that 32 percent of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses failed to cope with their understated tasks for the first quarter. Over a period of 3 months, 11 percent fewer livestock and poultry were sold to the state than was the case last year and this had a direct effect on the counters in our stores.

The sales weight and average daily weight increases in the livestock dropped sharply this year. The average sales weight for large-horned cattle, for example, decreased by 51 kilograms and hogs -- by 16 kilograms. The farms in Raplaskiy Rayon supplied the meat combines with large-horned cattle which were 100 kilograms lighter than last year and swine -- 28 kilograms lighter. Last year the average sales weight for swine in Paydeskiy Rayon was 102 kilograms and this year -- only 76.

What are the prospects for meat production during the coming months? Whereas during the January to March period the sale of underweight hogs was caused by a shortage of feed, at the present time, with the feed situation having eased somewhat as a result of assistance furnished by the CC CPSU and the USSR Council of Ministers, not one farm is authorized to supply unfattened hogs. But hogs are not fattened overnight and this means that there will be no substantial increase in their sale to the state during April and May.

On 1 April, there were more poultry and large-horned cattle at the kolkhozes and sovkhoses and fewer hogs. Thus one of the chief tasks of the closing wintering period for the livestock -- that of retaining the number of large-horned cattle and hogs -- can be considered as fulfilled. In order to ensure that a considerable increase will take place in the production of pork during the next few years, greater attention must be given during the forthcoming months to the selection of young sows and to their mating. Each farm must plan on obtaining a sufficient number of young pigs such that it will be able to fulfill its meat production tasks for 1983. In a number of rayons, a somewhat greater number of sows were mated during March than was the case last year. But proper attention was not given to this problem on farms in Khar'yuskiy, Raplaskiy, Tartuskiy, Vyruskiy and some other rayons.

**Meat Procurements and Average Daily Weight Increases in Livestock
During Fattening Operations, for January to March 1982**

Rayons	Livestock and poultry procured at all categories of farms, in % of:		Average daily weight increase in livestock during fattening at kolkhozes and sovkhoses, in grams	
	Plan for 1st quarter	Corresponding period for 1981	Large-horned cattle	Hogs
Pylvaskiy	170	89	526	406
Khiyumaaskiy	125	122	392	430
Raplaskiy	117	115	329	349
Khaapsaluskiy	114	81	377	326
Vyruskiy	114	106	507	361
Khar'yuskiy	113	91	288	343
Yygevaskiy	108	92	324	350
Vil'yandiskiy	105	99.5	479	428
Tartuskiy	105	87	457	321
Rakvereskiy	104	77	354	366
Paydeskiy	99.0	91	193✓	324
Pyarnuskiy	97	81	333	424
Kingiseppskiy	91	86	520	346
Valgaskiy	89	86	338	302
Kokhtla-Yarveskiy	76	74	487	333

It is well that in excess of 12,000 more young pigs (or 46 percent more) were sold to the population during the first 3 months of this year than were sold 1 year ago. Such work must be intensified still further, especially in Kingiseppskiy, Yygevaskiy, Raplaskiy and Paydeskiy Rayons.

At kolkhozes and sovkhoses throughout the republic, the milk yield per cow on 1 April was 130 kilograms less than that for the first quarter of 1981. The milk yields declined in all rayons, but most of all in Raplaskiy Rayon -- 215 kilograms, with 68 kilograms in March alone. The least decline in milk yields was observed at kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Pylvaskiy Rayon -- 19 kilograms.

First place in terms of the indicator for milk yield level was won by the livestock breeders in Rakvereskiy Rayon. They obtained 744 kilograms of milk from each cow (129 kilograms less than 1 year ago. They are surpassing the Paydeskiy Rayon livestock breeders by 20 kilograms.

Owing to a shortage of high quality feed on a majority of farms, no success was achieved in avoiding a decrease in milk production. At the same time, there are kolkhozes and sovkhoses in almost all of the rayons where good organization and skilful utilization of feed made it possible to avoid this. This includes the Orissaare Kolkhoz in Kingiseppskiy Rayon, Aravete Kolkhoz in Paydeskiy Rayon, Layuze Kolkhoz in Yygevaskiy Rayon, Vara Sovkhoz in Tartuskiy Rayon and so forth. Recently the milk yield per cow for the 3 month period increased by 90 kilograms above the figure for the first quarter of last year. Only Rakvereskiy Rayon succeeded in fulfilling its 1st quarter task for selling milk to the state.

Milk Procurements and Cow Productivity During January - March 1982

Rayons	Milk Procured At All Categories of Farms, in percentages of:		Average milk yield per cow at kolkhozes and sovkhozes, in kg	± kg compared to corresponding period during 1981
	Plan for 1st quarter	Corresponding period for 1981		
Rakvereskiy	114	79	744	-129
Vyruskiy	98	78	664	-136
Pyarnuskiy	95	85	721	- 73
Khar'yuskiy	95	72	647	-167
Pylvaskiy	92	96	706	-19
Tartuskiy	92	78	632	-116
Vil'yandiskiy	87	77	702	-174
Kingiseppskiy	86	84	658	- 74
Valgaskiy	84	82	607	-94
Yygevaskiy	82	79	708	-114
Paydeskiy	77	73	724	-194
Kokhtla-Yarveskiy	76	76	634	-126
Khaapsaluskiy	76	74	547	-115
Khiyumaaskiy	73	72	568	-175
Raplaskiy	68	64	578	-215

The pasturing period will soon commence. The high quality feed saved until spring, first of all the hay, must furnish an increase in milk yields. The young herd must be provided with the waste products obtained from the grading of seed potatoes. During the next few weeks, a determination must be made as to the order to be followed for the summer grazing. For it is our summer feeding that has not been especis'ly satisfactory in recent years. The impending summer must provide a considerable increase in milk, particularly in view of the fact that the forage crop sowing areas have been increased in almost all areas.

Zonal Conferences on Cultivation

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 10 Apr 82 p 1

[Article: "On the Eve of the Busy Harvest Season"]

[Text] Zonal conferences were held throughout the republic from 18 March to 8 April, during which discussions took place on the tasks of the field crop growers for successfully carrying out the socialist obligations for the current year. The participants in these conferences included the 1st secretaries of the rayon party committees, the chairmen of rayon executive committees, the leaders and specialists of agroindustrial associations and the leaders and chief specialists of farms.

A great amount of attention was given to grain and potato production. In the process, the need was stressed for raising their cropping power and improving seed production operations. An important task is that of reducing losses during crop harvesting work. This requires, in particular the selection of grain crop varieties which will ensure rhythmic work on each farm during the harvest period. In the

case of potato production, measures must be undertaken to ensure that the farms are supplied with seed tubers and that the cultivation of food potatoes is expanded. This requires the use on each farm of an entire complex of measures -- organizational, technological and particularly agrotechnical measures.

A great amount of work remains to be carried out this season in connection with increasing the production of feed. According to the scientists, 2 tons of feed in dry substance should be placed in storage for the winter for each head of large-horned cattle. However the production-financial plans for 1982 did not call for such an amount. Hence additional reserves must be found for the production of feed and for fully satisfying the requirements of the livestock for such feed. Moreover, great importance is attached to expanding the sowing areas for perennial grasses, restoring the cultivated pastures and applying mineral fertilizer top dressings to them. The foundation for high quality feed -- an efficiently organized conveyor line during the period in which they are harvested.

In the spring the farmers must cope with the consequences of the past unfavorable year. During the winter the soil's fertility deteriorated owing to an abundance of moisture. Thus, flexible tactics should be employed during the sowing work so as to ensure that it is carried out during the best periods. Special attention must be given to cultivating the soil and to introducing an all-round system for combating weeds and agricultural pests. The tractors of other departments should be made available for carrying out the spring field work.

Reports were delivered during the conference by the Minister of Agriculture for the Estonian SSR V. Lind and by the 1st Deputy Minister I. Aamisepp. The following individuals participated in the conferences: in Vil'yandi -- member of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia and 1st Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers for the Estonian SSR A. Ryuytel', in Saku -- secretary to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia A.B. Upsi, in Tartu -- Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers for the Estonian SSR Kh. Vel'di, in Pyarnu -- the head of the Agricultural Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia I. Kallas.

Those participating in the conferences adopted an appeal to be sent to the collectives of all kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

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CSO: 1824/284

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ESTONIAN PRESS CONFERENCE OUTLINES AGRICULTURAL TASKS

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 24 Apr 82 pp 1, 3

/Report on conference: "Nationwide Concern"/

/Text/ A press conference with Kh. Vel'di, deputy chairman of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers, for workers of editorial departments of newspapers, journals, ETA /Estonian Telegraphic Agency/, television and radio in the republic was held on 23 April.

Kh. Toming, editor of the RAKHVA KHYAEL' newspaper, chairman of the board of the Estonian SSR Union of Journalists, opened the press conference.

"The 26th CPSU Congress," noted Comrade Vel'di, "set important tasks for the further increase in the production of agricultural products for rural workers. The accomplishment of the food program has become a true nationwide concern. It can be stated with confidence that social development determines the rates of growth of our agricultural production. At the same time, principal attention should be paid to the strengthening of the feed base of animal husbandry--the main agricultural sector in the republic--concern for cadres of farmers and improvement in the conditions of management of kolkhozes and sovkhoses."

The problem of increasing the production of locally produced feed is the key problem of the agronomical service of every farm. The elimination of a certain lag in milk and meat production largely depends on its solution. Last year the weather did not pamper feed procurement officials. However, the experience of our best farms shows that, where the work on the procurement of grass feed is placed on the proper level, as before, things are going well. Specific measures for an increase in the proportion of feed protein have been developed and are being introduced--clover, lucerne and rape areas are being expanded. Along with this it is necessary to increase the yield of all agricultural crops.

The stock of large-horned cattle is to be increased by 6 percent (including of cows by 8 percent) in our republic during the 11th Five-Year Plan. The number of sheep will be almost doubled. The first experience in the keeping of large-horned cattle of a special meat breed has been accumulated and along with the development of hog breeding more attention will be paid to beef production on farms.

Replying to a question about the prospects for the development of milk and meat production in the individual sector, Comrade Vel'di said that there were great potentials there. The purchase of surplus agricultural products from the population is not yet well organized everywhere and sufficient help in feed procurement is not given to owners of private livestock. Our forestry farms have good possibilities for keeping large-horned cattle and sheep. They have plenty of land suitable for pastures at their disposal. More than 160 subsidiary farms of enterprises and fishing kolkhozes, which supply locally produced meat, milk and vegetables for their restaurants, now operate in the republic. The number of such agricultural complexes will be increased during this five-year plan.

The shortage of machine operators and milkers is an acute problem and journalists have a wide field of activity here--these occupations must be popularized more widely. This also applies to the pedagogical collectives of rural schools. The molding of personality begins in childhood and the reinforcement of cadres with young specialists largely depends on how we train young people for independent life and teach them to see joy in the difficult occupation of a farmer.

Agroindustrial associations have now been established in every rayon in our republic. This opened up for farms great possibilities of meeting the needs of rural residents--improving their cultural and general services and providing them with new housing. Incidentally, more than 1.8 million square meters of living space have been built in rural areas in Estonia in the last 10 years. This is a great deal, but more will have to be done, especially on lagging farms, to provide a sufficient number of comfortable apartments for rural workers.

"The solution of all these problems," noted Comrade Vel'di, "is closely connected with an intensive development of all agricultural sectors. The social development of every farm has become an integral part of the successful realization of the food program."

Comrade Vel'di also answered numerous questions. He expressed confidence that the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR will become a year of stepped-up creative labor for every agricultural worker.

I. Kallas and A. Soydlä, heads of divisions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia, took part in the work of the press conference.

11,439

CSO: 1824/290

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FAR EAST, SIBERIAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Agricultural Bases of BAM

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 24 Apr 82 p 2

/Article by A. Modogoyev, first secretary of the Buryatskaya Oblast Party Committee: "A Developed Agrarian Base for the Country's Eastern Regions"

/Text The Baykal-Amur Trunk Line has been working for the five-year plan for the second year now. Life is being set up here in a solid way, for many years. In connection with this the need for the most rapid strengthening of the food base of the BAM /Baykal-Amur Trunk Line is increasing.

For rural workers in the country's eastern regions the decree "On the Overall Development of Agriculture in the Regions of Siberia and of the Far East and in Kurganskaya Oblast," adopted on L. I. Brezhnev's initiative a few days ago, represents a new incentive in the attainment of the goals set by the 26th party congress. A significant increase in the local production of all food products, as envisaged by the indicated document, requires a fundamental turn to the development of agriculture along the trunk line under construction.

Before the beginning of the trunk line's construction, essentially, these regions did not engage in agriculture. Therefore, at first there were difficulties in the supply of milk, potatoes and vegetables for builders. Products had to be brought from the country's central regions.

Realizing well the importance of a reliable supply of fresh food products for the rapidly growing population, the republic's agricultural bodies are trying to more rapidly increase the production of milk, potatoes and vegetables in the BAM zone itself--Severo-Baykal'skiy and Bauntovskiy Rayons. Former small industry farms have been transformed into sovkhoses. On these sovkhoses new land is being developed, modern dairy sections are being built, the milk herd is increasing and areas sown with fodder crops, potatoes and vegetables are being expanded. Moreover, builders are also establishing subsidiary farms. All this, even though it does not fully solve the problem, represents significant assistance in the improvement in the supply of fresh products for the population of this zone by local production.

In the BAM zone itself there is little land suitable for agriculture--no more than 4,000 to 5,000 hectares. These are small taiga plots, whose development is very costly. They are more suitable for the organization of small subsidiary farms. Another circumstance should also be taken into consideration: Only annual and perennial cereal grass produces a guaranteed harvest in the north of the republic. This means that, in order to ensure a significant increase in the production of milk, potatoes and vegetables in the next few years, it is necessary to search for other ways of solving the problem.

In 1977 the oblast party committee and the republic's Council of Ministers submitted proposals to the USSR State Planning Committee for an accelerated development of agriculture in Barguzinskiy and Kurumkanskiy Rayons located in the zone adjoining the BAM. Since then the possibilities for the establishment of the main food base for the Buryat section of the BAM in the Barguzin Valley were thoroughly studied by the specialists of the Siberian Department of the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni V. I. Lenin, the RSFSR State Planning Committee and the Buryat Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture. They prepared a work plan for the development of the zone's agriculture for the period until 1990.

Scientists see the advantage of the Barguzin Valley in the fact that it is well developed. More than 50,000 people live here and nine sovkhoses and four kolkhozes operate. These farms have more than 200,000 head of livestock and grow grain and fodder crops, potatoes and vegetables.

Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the Barguzin Valley annually produce up to 10,000 tons of milk and about 4,000 tons of meat. Most of this output is used for supplying the population of the city of Ulan-Ude and other industrial centers.

To be sure, reclamation is the decisive link in highly intensive agriculture under local conditions. About 20,000 hectares, mainly hayfields, are now irrigated in the Barguzin Valley. Advanced production workers gather 30 to 40 quintals of hay per hectare. Special surveys have shown that more than 160,000 hectares can be irrigated. The combination of land and water resources here is such that, when the necessary agricultural reclamation measures are implemented, it is possible to produce sufficient quantities of the most various food products not only for the north of Buryatiya, but also for the future Udokan Industrial Complex in Chitinskaya Oblast.

In the lower reaches of the Barguzin River there are more than 60,000 hectares of inundated and water-logged flood plain land. At present this land is hardly utilized, because the necessary reclamation work is not carried out. Putting it to use will make it possible to transform the flood plain of the Barguzin into a major source of production of cheap feed. It is only necessary to build reservoirs on its tributaries--the Argada, Garga and Ina rivers--for the control of the flood runoff.

More than 40,000 hectares of arable land suitable for mechanical irrigation are located on the terraces near the bank of the Barguzin Basin. The Republic State Institute for the Planning of Water-Management and Reclamation Construction of the RSFSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources developed a scheme for overall reclamation of land in the Barguzin Basin.

Farms in the Barguzin Valley have convenient outlets to the BAM zone on the Baykal and the Tazy-Uoyan motor road. In brief, everything points to the fact that this zone can and should become a reliable rear food base of the BAM and the agrarian shop of the future North Baykal Territorial Production Complex.

Specific work is being done in this direction. The existing irrigation network is being improved and the lack of personal responsibility in the use of land is being eliminated. The local runoff is being widely used for the watering of arable land and meadows. The soil protective farming system, fallow grain crop rotations with a brief rotation and summer sowings of fodder crops are becoming widespread.

During the 11th Five-Year Plan the deliveries of new equipment and fertilizers to kolkhozes and sovkhoses in these regions have been increased and more funds have been allocated for the development of feed production and the construction of livestock barns. The plan envisages a fundamental reconstruction of the Bodonskaya and Karasunskaya irrigation systems on almost 1,000 hectares. Hundreds of hectares of water-logged land will be drained. All these measures will make it possible to increase the production of milk by 10 to 12 percent and of meat, by 18 to 20 percent and to almost double vegetable production during the five-year plan.

The further prospects for the growth of the production of agricultural products will be largely determined by the scale of land improvement. Of course, the development of modern large reclamation systems in such remote regions is not a simple matter. It is necessary to have a good construction base, to promptly prepare valid projects and to find the necessary funds.

The conditions for the development of agriculture in the Barguzin Valley itself are not the same. In its upper (northern) part they are more suitable for beef cattle husbandry and in the lower part, for dairy farming and potato and vegetable growing. In order to transfer agricultural production to a more intensive path of development, it will be necessary to carry out large-scale work on an efficient distribution of sectors and the specialization and cooperation of farms.

The forces of BAM builders could be involved in the construction of agrarian-industrial projects. After all, they will fulfill their basic specific tasks by the end of this five-year plan. Such an opportunity should not be missed. Meanwhile, as of now there are no prepared technical documents for a single major agricultural project. Moreover, even the problem of the construction and financing of such projects has not been solved. It seems to us that these problems should be solved in the very near future. The USSR Ministry of Transport Construction and, primarily, its Main Administration for the Construction of the Baykal-Amur Trunk Line should show interest in this.

It must be admitted that reclamation specialists are not in a hurry. True, the RSFSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources assigned the forces of other planning institutes to assist local planners. The Southern Institute for the Planning of Water Management and Reclamation Construction is developing the plan of the Nizhnekurumskaya Drainage and Irrigation System. The construction base of the future Barguzin Water Management Construction Trust is also being planned. However, all this work is being carried out very slowly. To this day it remains unclear who will plan and build water control installations on the tributaries of the Barguzin River.

The possibility of including the Barguzin Valley in the BAM zone was discussed actively at one time. The advisability of such a step is obvious, because the extension of the terms of wages and other privileges and advantages established for the BAM zone to the republic's Kurumkanskiy and Barguzinskiy Rayons will make it possible to attract the necessary cadres, of which today there is such a shortage, to this area. The experience in the development of Siberia's new territories convinces us that well-coordinated plans are always necessary in such cases.

The problems of the overall development of the north of Buryatiya and of the transformation of the Barguzin Valley into a food base of the BAM zone are put on the agenda. It is a question of big prospects--the production of products for supplying the population of an entire region in Siberia and the accomplishment of the task set by the 26th congress of our party.

Intensification of Program

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 25 Apr 82 p 1

/Article: "By the Reliable Method of Intensification"

/Text/ The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On the Overall Development of Agriculture in the Regions of Siberia and of the Far East and in Kurganskaya Oblast" was published in the press a few days ago. The Soviet people see in this a new manifestation of the unabated concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for an all-around development of the agrarian sector of our economy and for the rendering of efficient assistance to rural workers in an increase in their contribution to the country's food and raw material resources.

As is well known, extensive work on an increase in the productivity of farming and animal husbandry and on the renovation of rural areas in the nonchernozem and central chernozem zones of the RSFSR and other regions is already being carried out. The maximum possible increase in the production of agricultural products in the regions of Siberia and of the Far East and in Kurganskaya Oblast is now one of the key tasks and an integral part of the overall development of natural resources and productive forces in this zone, which plays an ever greater role in our economy.

The system of measures for an accelerated development of farming and animal husbandry and for the reorganization of rural areas in these regions developed in the decree calls for a situation in which the needs of the rapidly growing population for food products, primarily potatoes, vegetables, milk, meat and eggs, are met basically by local production and the material and cultural-general living conditions of the urban and rural population are brought closer together.

In the last few years party, Soviet and agricultural bodies and rural workers in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast have increased the production and sale of field and farm products to the state. The persistent work on an increase in land fertility and the application of scientifically substantiated agrotechnical and organizational-economic measures enabled many farms and entire rayons and even oblasts to greatly raise the productivity of farming and animal husbandry. For example, kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Omskaya Oblast, owing to a systematic

introduction of the achievements of science and advanced experience into production, during the 10th Five-Year Plan increased the average annual yield almost 1.5-fold and gross grain production rose by 19 percent.

Today in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast there are many farms, which stably obtain high harvests of grain, potatoes and fodder and steadily increase the productivity of livestock and poultry. For example, the Krasnyy Khleborob Kolkhoz in Ilanskiy Rayon, Krasnoyarskiy Kray, the Sibiryak Sovkhoz in Russko-Polyanskiy Rayon, Omskaya Oblast, the Voskhod Kolkhoz in Zmeinogorskiy Rayon, Altayskiy Kray and the Zavety Lenina Kolkhoz in Shadrinskiy Rayon, Kurganskaya Oblast, gather 20 to 25 quintals of grain per hectare year after year. Livestock breeders on the Verkh-Irmenskiy Sovkhoz in Novosibirskaya Oblast annually cultivate and sell to the state about 4,000 young bulls, whose average delivery weight is about 500 kg--almost 1½ quintals more than the average in the oblast. This is attained with expenditures of feed, labor and funds much lower than on other farms.

The results of work of these and other advanced farms convincingly demonstrate that Siberian and Far Eastern farmers and livestock breeders have great opportunities and potentials for a significant increase in field and farm productivity. However, as noted in the decree, the present level of production of agricultural products in this vast zone is insufficient and the population's needs are not fully met by local production. Many kolkhozes and sovkhoses have not yet learned to work with land efficiently and to increase its fertility and poorly utilize the existing material and technical potential for an increase in the production of all types of agricultural products.

Therefore, on the basis of the decisions of the July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and of the 25th and 26th party congresses and for the purpose of an overall development and implementation of the program for the intensification of agriculture and realization of the directives and recommendations by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, given by him during his visit to the regions of Siberia and the Far East, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers set the provision of further intensification in agricultural production and of a significant increase in the efficiency of all its sectors as one of the main tasks of party, Soviet and agricultural bodies and scientific institutions in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast. It was suggested that they together with the appropriate ministries and departments develop and implement a system of measures for an increase in the fertility of soil and in the standard of farming and animal husbandry and for the transformation of rural areas and villages into well-managed settlements.

Special significance is attached to an extensive utilization of the achievements of science and advanced experience on kolkhozes and sovkhoses, application of zonal systems of agricultural management, mastering of scientifically substantiated crop rotations on all farms, improvement in the production of seeds of grain and other agricultural crops, outstripping development of the feed base of animal husbandry and its transfer to industrial technologies. In the next few years the harvests of grain in the indicated zones should be increased by 4 to 7 quintals per hectare, of potatoes, to 150 or 170 quintals per hectare and of vegetables, to 200 or 250 quintals per hectare.

Highly intensive agricultural zones specializing in the production of potatoes, vegetables, meat, milk, eggs and other products will be established near big cities and industrial centers, as well as in the regions of construction of the Baykal-Amur Trunk Line. At the same time, the scale of production, housing and cultural-general construction will expand considerably so that the social and economic living conditions of the rural population in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast are improved fundamentally. Measures to reinforce kolkhozes and sovkhoses with skilled personnel have been envisaged.

To fulfill this program, the state allocates almost 20.5 billion rubles for the 5-year period and greatly increases the deliveries of tractors, agricultural machines, mineral fertilizers and other equipment. The duty of party, Soviet and agricultural bodies, managers and specialists of kolkhozes and sovkhoses and all rural workers is to utilize them efficiently and with the greatest return, to create conditions for a highly productive labor of farmers, livestock breeders, builders, reclamation specialists and every labor collective and to see to it that more and more products are obtained from each hectare of land on every farm.

The spring sowing season is also approaching in the regions of Siberia and the Far East. Maximally utilizing the achievements of science and the experience of advanced farms, it is necessary to use as widely as possible the most efficient methods and techniques of increasing field and farm productivity. It is important that every kolkhoz and sovkhos sees to it that machine operators and other workers are trained in their practical use and that conditions of socialist competition and measures of moral and financial incentives for the attainment of the highest labor productivity and a high quality of work are developed. It is also necessary to well organize public dining and medical and cultural-general services for people working in fields, meadows and farms.

To sow all crops in an organized way and on a high agrotechnical level means to establish a reliable basis for the harvest of the second year of the five-year plan and to create conditions for a successful implementation of the measures envisaged by the party and the government. This will also be a worthy contribution to the nationwide preparation for the welcome to the famous historical anniversary--the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

EFFICIENT CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN RURAL AREA CONSTRUCTION

Moscow EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA in Russian No 3, Mar 82 pp 66-73

/Article by I. Bystryukov, USSR deputy minister of agriculture: "Improvement in Construction in Rural Areas"/

/Text/ The 26th CPSU Congress determined the basic directions in the economic and social development of our country during the 11th Five-Year Plan and set new tasks for the implementation of the agrarian policy of the party.

The material and technical base of agriculture was strengthened considerably and the production of agricultural products was increased. At the same time, there are certain difficulties in the population's provision with agricultural products. In this connection the task of improving the food supply for the population was put in the forefront in the party policy. The accountability report by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev to the 26th party congress substantiated the need for the development of a special food program as an integral part of the five-year plan.

The accomplishment of the tasks set is based on the considerably increased material and technical base of agriculture. "We will continue," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted, "to allocate large financial and material resources for rural areas and to systematically transfer this sector to an industrial basis. However, the center of gravity--and this is the distinctive feature of the agrarian policy in the 1980's--now shifts to the capital investment yield, growth of productivity of agriculture and intensification and improvement in its relations with all the sectors of the agro-industrial complex."

Almost 190 billion rubles of capital investments are allocated for the development of agriculture in the entire set of operations during the 11th Five-Year Plan, as compared to 172 billion rubles in 1976-1980.

The task now is to utilize the allocated funds skillfully and with the greatest effectiveness. During the current five-year plan the growth of agricultural production is to be ensured mainly as a result of the sector's further intensification and an increase in the efficiency of utilization of land, the created production potential and the allocated material resources.

Certain positive results have been attained in construction in rural areas in the last few years. The measures taken to concentrate capital investments at key and start-up construction projects made it possible to come close to the fulfillment of the plan for the commissioning of fixed capital during the 10th Five-Year Plan, that is, on the whole, fulfillment made up 97 percent and on sovkhoses, 99 percent.

During that period well-managed dwelling houses of a total area of more than 65 million square meters were built, which made it possible to give a house warming to 1.3 million families of kolkhoz members and sovkhos workers. As a result of new construction the network of children's preschool institutions increased by 722,000 places. General educational schools for 1.62 million students and a large number of other projects for cultural-general and municipal purposes were put into operation. Significant work on the good order and gasification of kolkhoz and sovkhos settlements was carried out.

The assignments for the commissioning of barns for all types of livestock and poultry, poultry factories of egg and meat specialization, vegetable and potato storage facilities, silage and haylage structures, grain seed storage facilities, feed shops for animal husbandry and pasture watering projects were overfulfilled in 1976-1980.

During the 11th Five-Year Plan the rates of growth of capital investments for production purposes will be lower than during the 10th Five-Year Plan. However, there is a fundamental feature here--an accelerated development of feed production and feed preparation (a more than 1.5-fold growth), as well as the construction of plant growing projects (a growth of 16 percent). Preference is also given to the structures necessary to ensure the preservation of products. The programs of the current five-year plan envisage a significant increase in the construction of capacities for silage and haylage storage--up to 197 million tons, as compared to 117 million tons during the 10th Five-Year Plan. The provision of these structures in the country will reach 83 percent by the end of 1985 as compared to 55 percent in 1980. For example, in the Russian Federation the provision of capacities is to be increased from 53 to 92 percent and in the Turkmen SSR, from 30 to 83 percent. The provision of storage facilities for hay, pelletized feed, grass meal, potatoes, vegetables and fruits increases considerably.

About 2.9 billion rubles, or 42 percent more than during the 10th Five-Year Plan, are to be allocated for the construction of projects for the preparation and storage of grain.

A total of 1.7 billion rubles, or 2.2 times as much as during the past five-year plan, are to be allocated for the construction of warehouses for the storage of mineral fertilizers during the current five-year plan. This will make it possible to put into operation warehouse capacities for 13.7 million tons of one-time storage, as compared to 11.3 million tons during the past five-year plan. In 1985 the Uzbek, Kazakh, Georgian and Latvian SSR will be almost fully provided with these warehouses. The situation with the preservation of fertilizers in the RSFSR and the Ukrainian and a number of other republics will be improved considerably.

An important role is assigned to the construction of motor roads in rural areas. This problem is considered one of the key factors in an increase in the efficiency of agriculture. During this five-year plan 4.7 billion rubles of capital investments, or 42 percent more than during the 10th Five-Year Plan, are to be allocated for the construction of motor roads on sovkhoses and kolkhoses.

An increase in capital investments for measures for raising the active part of fixed productive capital is envisaged during the current five-year plan. As compared with the 10th Five-Year Plan the allocations for the purchase of machinery

and equipment will be increased by almost 9 billion rubles, or by 17 percent. Their proportion in the volume of capital investments for production purposes will rise from 35.4 percent during the 10th Five-Year Plan to 40 percent during the 11th Five-Year Plan.

As already stated, the maximum possible increase in the effectiveness of capital investments is one of the most important economic tasks of the 11th Five-Year Plan. An increase in capacities at existing enterprises as a result of the introduction of advanced technology, reconstruction and technical retooling produces the greatest effect in this matter. Capital investments amounting to 23.8 billion rubles are allocated for these purposes, which is 6 billion rubles more than utilized in 1976-1980.

An efficient utilization of all the capabilities of agricultural production is directly connected with the solution of social problems in rural areas. The 26th party congress mapped out a number of measures in this field. As a result, capital investments for nonproduction construction during the 11th Five-Year Plan were envisaged in the amount of 37.9 billion rubles, as compared to 26 billion rubles during the 10th Five-Year Plan.

The construction of individual well-managed houses with private plots and farm buildings for livestock and poultry in rural areas has become widespread in the last few years. In this connection we must especially stress the great importance of the decree dated 19 June 1978 of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On the Further Development of Construction of Individual Dwelling Houses and Personnel Retention in Rural Areas." It is important to note that in accordance with this decree the norms of planning of individual dwelling houses and farm structures were revised for the purpose of creation of the conditions necessary for the management of the private subsidiary sector, as well as new standard plans for dwelling houses, which in their good order and planning solutions met the needs of the rural population, were developed.

The decree dated 5 October 1981 of the USSR Council of Ministers "On Individual Housing Construction" was the next step in this matter. In particular, this decree instructed the USSR State Planning Committee to stipulate in the drafts of state plans for the economic and social development of the USSR the limits of capital investments and of construction-installation and contract work and the material and technical resources necessary to ensure the construction of individual dwelling houses and also envisaged the implementation of a number of other measures aimed at the expansion of the scale and improvement in the quality of construction of such houses.

As a result of the implemented measures, the proportion of one-story single-apartment houses of the farmstead type with the necessary farm structures, which most fully meet the needs of the rural population, has increased in rural housing construction in the last few years. In 1980 the proportion of farmstead houses in the total volume of state rural construction comprised 55 percent.

The volume of construction of dwelling houses equipped with water supply, central heating, sewage and gas supply systems also rose. For example, whereas the proportion of fully appointed houses commissioned at the expense of the state in rural areas comprised 27 percent in 1975, it reached 33 percent in 1980. During the 11th Five-Year Plan this process will be developed further and by 1985 the proportion of one-story farmstead houses in the total volume of state rural construction will reach 65 percent.

Capital construction is one of the most important means of ensuring the development of all material production sectors and the further improvement in the people's housing and cultural-general living conditions. Therefore, it is very important to plan it correctly.

The correct planning of capital investments should ensure an increase and improvement in the production capacities and fixed capital necessary for the provision of the proportions and rates of development of agriculture, expansion of available housing and construction of projects for municipal and domestic services and of a network of educational, cultural, scientific and public health institutions, proportions and rates envisaged in the state plan for economic and social development.

The determination of the optimum correlation between the commissioning of fixed capital and the volume of capital investments for the planned period is one of the basic problems in the planning of capital investments. It is well known that a more rapid commissioning of projects under construction accelerates the turnover of funds invested in kolkhoz and sovkhoz construction and lowers its cost. At the same time, the volume of incomplete construction is lowered. The dissipation of capital investments over a large number of carry-over and newly begun projects is the main shortcoming in the planning of construction. In connection with this start-up projects are not fully provided with monetary and material resources and construction periods and, consequently, the periods of recovery of capital investments are prolonged.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted a number of important measures to ensure a higher concentration of capital investments and their balance with the volumes of material resources, capacities of construction organizations and manpower. At the same time, provision was made to greatly intensify the concentration of capital investments on top-priority and start-up construction projects and to reduce the size of new construction.

The realization of these fundamentally important directions in the policy of capital investments creates favorable conditions for the attainment as early as 1982 of a breakthrough in capital construction, a significant acceleration of the commissioning of fixed capital and a reduction in the size of incomplete construction and above-standard stocks of uninstalled equipment. The task set is quite realistic. There are definite results in this matter right now. For example, in the system of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture the volume of capital investments for the construction of agricultural projects was about 12.9 billion rubles in 1981. The actual commissioning of fixed capital continues to increase annually. With the negligible growth of capital investments in the last 3 years a reduction in the volume of incomplete construction was attained. It was lowered from 56 percent of the fulfilled volume of capital investments in 1979 to 53 percent in 1981.

In the programs of the 11th Five-Year Plan there is a fundamentally new approach to the distribution of capital investments and construction organization. Principal attention is given to an increase in the effectiveness of capital investments and to a better coordination of capital construction with the material and technical resources and capabilities of construction and installation organizations. On this basis provision is made for a considerable excess of the rates of growth of the commissioning of fixed capital as compared with an increase in capital investments, for a reduction in incomplete construction and for bringing it up to the standard level by the end of the five-year plan.

The technological structure of capital investments is being improved. The proportion of construction and installation work in the total volume of capital investments is being lowered from 54 percent in 1976-1980 to 51 percent in 1981-1985.

The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Improving Planning and Strengthening the Influence of the Economic Mechanism on Increasing Production Efficiency and Work Quality" establishes a procedure for the preparation of long-term plans for economic and social development.

The five-year plan with an annual distribution of assignments is the main form of state planning of capital construction. Indicators concretizing and in some cases refining the assignments established for a corresponding year of the five-year plan are affirmed in annual capital construction plans. At the same time, the limits of capital investments and construction-installation work established in the five-year plan are not subject to reaffirmation.

Provision is made for the stability and continuity of effect of five-year capital construction plans, increase in the responsibility of clients and contractors for a prompt commissioning of production capacities and projects and a balance of the plan with the possibilities of allocation of materials and technological and power equipment with labor and financial resources, as well as with the capacities of construction and installation organizations.

A normal implementation of construction is inconceivable without its prompt and full financing. The financing of capital investments represents the distribution of monetary assets for the purpose of increasing the sector's production capacities and fixed capital. The procedure of capital construction financing was established by the Rules of Construction Financing. On the basis of the indicated rules the capital investments of state enterprises, organizations and institutions are financed in accordance with the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR, the state budget of the USSR and the credit plan.

Construction at the expense of credit granted by the bank to the contractor in the amount of the full cost of construction determined by an estimate is now practised on many farms. An estimate correctly prepared and accepted by a contracting construction organization is the basic document for settlements of accounts between clients and construction organizations. The accounts between the client and the contractor for built projects prepared for the output of finished products are settled after their acceptance by the client. The contractor liquidates the credits obtained after the final settlements of accounts with the client.

The introduction of the system of financing for a fully completed project without any intermediary or partial settlements of accounts into construction accelerates the completion of construction and installation work and the commissioning of projects and prompts construction organizations to concentrate the necessary labor, material-technical and financial resources on start-up and other key projects. A construction organization is interested in delivering projects to clients ahead of schedule in order to recover its own funds invested in construction.

A correct material and technical supply for economic and social development plans is one of the important factors in a successful implementation of capital construction. It is realized by means of the plans for the distribution of material and technical resources according to the basic directions in their utilization and to holders of capital.

Material balances and distribution plans are developed on the basis of an overall approach to the planning and utilization of material and technical resources and the use in calculations of a progressive standard base taking into consideration the effect of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, as well as a prompt uncovering of additional reserves.

The need of capital construction for materials is determined according to the average norms of expenditure per million rubles of the estimated cost of construction and installation work, which are calculated on the basis of objective and sectorial norms and the structure of construction and installation work according to intra-sectorial directions in construction.

The sectorial and intrasectorial structure of construction and installation work is developed on the basis of title lists of construction projects at the expense of state capital investments and separately at the expense of the internal funds of kolkhozes.

The average norms of expenditures of materials per million rubles of the estimated cost of construction and installation work for the planned year are determined according to the sectorial norms of expenditure of the current year's plan and the sectorial structure of construction and installation work for the planned year with due regard for a number of factors lowering and increasing the norm.

The norms take into consideration the waste and losses of materials during the performance of construction and installation work and the manufacture of building structures and articles.

The average norms of expenditure and the assignments for the saving of materials are differentiated and presented by ministries and departments to main administrations and associations engaged in construction.

The need of construction organizations and enterprises engaged in construction by the economic method for material resources is determined according to the physical volumes of work.

For the fulfillment of the increasing volumes of construction in rural areas the USSR Ministry of Rural Construction was formed in January 1967. This ministry was entrusted with the management of rural construction in the country, the development of the general problems of construction organization and the introduction of the achievements of science and technology, as well as of advanced experience, into rural construction. The ministry carried out contract work on the building up of sovkhozes and kolkhozes, as well as other agricultural enterprises. Ministries of rural construction were organized in all the Union republics (except for the Latvian SSR and the Estonian SSR). Territorial administrations, trusts, construction and installation administrations and mobile mechanized columns were established in their structure.

The organizations of this ministry developed into large construction subdivisions. Every year they perform construction and installation work worth more than 5.2 billion rubles.

The construction organizations of other ministries and departments also work in rural areas. It must be noted that contracting ministries and departments engaged in construction and installation work on agricultural projects do not fulfill the assignments established for them year after year.

The general level of fulfillment of the contract work plan of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture is declining. In 1976 it fulfilled the plan 93 percent, in 1977, 91 percent, in 1978, 90 percent, in 1979, 89 percent and in 1980, 88.5 percent. The proportion of the USSR Ministry of Rural Construction, the basic contracting organization in rural areas, in the total volume of construction and installation work comprised 30 percent in 1975, declining to 26 percent at the end of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

As a result of the underfulfillment of the contract work plan by construction ministries a considerable part of the production capacities and projects on sovkhozes and other state farms were not put into operation.

Interkolkhoz construction organizations are the basic contracting organizations for construction on kolkhozes. Interkolkhoz construction organizations have developed at rapid rates in the last few years. Kolkhozes invested one out of 10 rubles in the development of their production base. The fixed capital of interkolkhoz construction organizations totaled 9.5 billion rubles at the end of the 10th Five-Year Plan. A total of 1.2 million people, including 120,000 engineering and technical workers, now work in the system of interkolkhoz construction organizations. In 1981 these organizations performed construction and installation work worth almost 5.5 billion rubles. The development of the production base and the equipment of interkolkhoz construction organizations with machinery--all this contributed to an increase in labor productivity, which rose 21 percent by 1980 as compared to 1975. In 1980 alone interkolkhoz construction organizations commissioned fixed capital of their own construction worth 1 billion rubles.

In 1980 the industrial enterprises of interkolkhoz construction organizations manufactured building materials, articles and structures worth 2.1 billion rubles, including 7.7 million cubic meters of precast reinforced concrete, 56.7 million cubic meters of nonore materials, 1.4 million tons of cement, 306,000 tons of lime and more than 5.5 million square meters of carpentry articles and procured and extracted 6.3 million cubic meters of round timber.

On the average, in the country interkolkhoz construction organizations account for 57 percent of the total volume of construction on kolkhozes. It is much higher in individual Union republics. Furthermore, interkolkhoz construction organizations now perform work for sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises and organizations worth about 1 billion rubles.

Along with this interkolkhoz construction organizations as yet do not utilize considerable potentials. The existing production capacities are not fully utilized, that is, for the production of precast reinforced concrete and carpentry articles, 75 to 80 percent, wall materials, 70 to 80 percent, light fillers, 50 to 60 percent and so forth. Nor is the existing equipment fully loaded. For example, in 1980 single-bucket excavators operated only 5.4 hours per shift, scrapers, 1.3 hours, bulldozers, 2.4 hours and crane trucks, 5.9 hours.

Many interkolkhoz construction organizations do not fulfill contract work plans, including for kolkhozes, do not cope with the assignment for labor productivity growth and permit losses.

A large volume of construction and installation work is also carried out by the economic method. Its share in the total volume of construction and installation work comprises 32 percent on the kolkhozes of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and 38 percent on its sovkhozes.

The prompt commissioning of capacities and fixed capital is now the basic evaluation of the fulfillment of the capital construction plan. The transition to the most progressive form of settlement of accounts between the client and the contractor for fully completed and commissioned enterprises, stages and start-up complexes and projects prepared for the output of products or the rendering of services according to the estimated cost of commodity building output greatly contributes to the above. Furthermore, when the time of commissioning of capacities is shortened by contracting organizations, as compared to the approved norms, the general contractor receives from the client capital at the rate of 50 percent of the profit envisaged by the plan for the period by which the time of construction is shortened. This capital is assigned for the economic incentive fund of the organizations participating in construction.

The successful implementation of construction plans depends to a large extent on the prompt provision of construction projects with high-quality planning estimates. On 30 March 1981 the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted the decree "On Measures for the Further Improvement in Planning Estimate Work," which raises the solution of these problems to a high-quality, new stage. It is suggested that party, Soviet and economic bodies take measures to improve the work of planning and surveying organizations and to develop the creative initiative and to raise the level of occupational knowledge of their workers with a view to ensuring the creation of plans of enterprises, buildings and structures meeting the modern requirements of scientific-technical and social progress and the conditions of transfer of the economy to the intensive path of development in accordance with the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

Great responsibility in the implementation of these measures rests with the clients of plans and planning organizations, which are called upon to prepare by joint efforts high-quality planning estimates for the construction of projects in a short time.

In the realization of these requirements of great importance is the transition to settlements of accounts between the client and the planning organization for a completed planned product, which represents the further development of cost accounting relations between them. In this case the payment for planning work is made only once for fully completed and accepted documents according to the full estimated cost of their preparation. The errors and omissions detected subsequently are eliminated by planning organizations without an additional payment. Such a measure disciplines the planning organization and forces it to prepare documents on the dates scheduled and in the necessary set, otherwise the client will not pay for this work.

However, there are also serious shortcomings in this important matter. The rise in the estimated cost of agricultural production construction, which has occurred in the last few years, evokes concern. For example, in the last 10 years the expenditures on the construction of dairy farms per place for one animal more than tripled. There was a similar situation during the construction of other projects. The unsubstantiated replacement of building structures and materials stipulated by plans with more expensive ones at the requests of contracting construction organizations is often the reason for the rise in the cost of construction of agricultural projects.

Contracting construction organizations poorly staff rural construction projects with working personnel and do not provide them with the necessary amount of construction equipment, transport facilities, materials and structures.

Planning documents often are prepared on a low technical level and for various reasons plans are often altered, which leads to unproductive expenditures and to a prolongation of the time and rise in the cost of construction.

Many existing plans of rural houses do not satisfy dwellers in their design, quality and degree of good order. Settlements are often built incomplete and at a low architectural construction level. Problems of engineering equipment of settlements, that is, water and heat supply and a sewage system, especially for farmstead construction, are solved slowly.

At present, in practice, a service for the maintenance of buildings and engineering networks and structures is absent in rural areas. Often there is no one to change electric wiring, to supply gas and water or to fix a roof.

Modern construction should correspond to the ever higher demands and tastes of rural residents, as well as to overall economic development. Rural dwelling houses should be architecturally expressive and have a high level of comfort.

The necessary measures are taken to eliminate the shortcomings existing in rural construction. For example, in the last few years steps have been taken to improve the quality of planning of agricultural production projects. At the same time, special attention was paid to the correct selection of sites for the construction of projects with due regard for minimal expenditures on the development of the territory and the construction and maintenance of the engineering networks and structures outside the sites. Work is done on the study and generalization of the experience in the planning and construction of agricultural projects, on the attainment of the planned capacities and technical and economic indicators and on an economic analysis of planning solutions for the purpose of finding the potentials for a reduction in the estimated cost of construction and in the expenditures of fuel and power resources, metal, cement and other materials.

An expansion of the scale of application of local building materials--brick, sand, rubble, gravel, lime and cast-in situ concrete--for construction in rural areas is an important measure in this respect. However, it should be noted that all these materials are quite widely used only with the economic method of construction. Contracting construction organizations try under any pretext to get away from them

and to use heavy precast reinforced concrete structures, for example, pavement slabs, for construction, which greatly increases the cost of construction. It should also be stated that ministries and departments engaged in construction in rural areas should have organized the production of lightened reinforced concrete and other economical structures so as to completely eliminate the use of parts of industrial buildings in rural construction projects in 1981. However, by no means all the contracting construction organizations of ministries and departments are imbued with the importance of this measure and continue to use in rural areas heavy and expensive structures designed for industrial installations.

However, let us turn to the measures taken. The norms of technological planning of barns for large-horned cattle, hogs, poultry and sheep, of projects for the storage and processing of potatoes, vegetables and fruits, of mineral fertilizer warehouses and of hothouse combines have been revised, which makes it possible to lower the cost of their construction by 5 percent. Furthermore, the design parameters for the building structures of buildings and installations have been changed, lowering their cost and material intensiveness.

The standard plans of agricultural production complexes, buildings and structures have been revised and about 200 obsolete and inefficient plans have been eliminated from those in effect. A number of standard plans ensuring a reduction in the cost of construction as a result of the application of more advanced technological and engineering solutions have been developed. For example, in the new plans of poultry factories for 3 million broilers, complexes for the annual breeding and fattening of 27,000 hogs and others the specific indicators of the estimated cost of construction have been lowered by 3 to 4 percent. The fulfillment of an overall plan for the development in 1981-1985 of new technological equipment and, on its basis, of standard plans has been organized. New design solutions with a nonwelded connection of the units of fully prefabricated production buildings are being developed. An experimental construction of these buildings has confirmed the possibility of reducing the labor expenditures on and of improving the quality of construction.

Measures to intensify financial control over an effective and purposeful utilization of capital investments in rural construction have been determined. Provision has been made for the introduction of maximum indicators of the cost of construction per unit of capacity. The use of standard planning documents and building structures, which eliminates the development of inefficient planning solutions, has been regulated. Unified specifications for the construction planning of agricultural enterprises, buildings and installations have been developed with due regard for the zonal characteristics of rural construction, limitation of the list of structures and size schemes of buildings and expansion of the use of light efficient structures. A scientific-technical overall program for the development and introduction of efficient types of agricultural enterprises, buildings and installations with a high level of industrialization of their construction has been prepared.

An overall engineering preparation of building production is being introduced, the brigade contract, flow methods of construction, technological production outfitting of projects under construction and operative control management are being expanded and the operation of rural construction and house-building combines as a

new advanced form of rural construction is being improved. Whereas 46 combines operated in 1980, there will be 131 such combines by the end of the current five-year plan. In 1985 they will put into operation 8 million square meters of production projects and 5.2 million square meters of residential and cultural-general buildings of a total value of 1.4 billion rubles.

The base of rural construction is being reconstructed in the direction of the further development of the production of lightened industrial structures, efficient building materials, fully prefabricated blocked cleaning installations, transformer substations, boiler rooms and other projects for the engineering equipment of rural settlements. During the current 5-year period the use of light concrete structures is to be increased 1.5-fold, of glued wooden structures, 1.4-fold and of large-panel house building structures, 2.2-fold.

This will make it possible to raise the level of fully prefabricated construction to 75 percent in 1985. A procedure for the elaboration of overall schemes for the development and distribution of the material and technical base of the ministries of rural construction of the Union republics and republic interkolkhoz construction associations providing for interdepartmental specialization and mutual deliveries of building structures and materials has been established.

The quality of construction is also improving. Whereas in 1976 the projects put into operation with good and excellent ratings comprised 61 percent of their total number, in 1980 they comprised 82 percent. The expenditures on the alteration of poorly performed projects were lowered by 30 percent. As a result of the measures taken the number of projects put into operation on and ahead of schedule increased. Thus, serious steps have been taken in the direction of improvement in capital construction in rural areas. Rural builders are fully resolved to make maximum efforts so that their sector may make a more significant contribution to the strengthening and expansion of the material and technical base of agriculture.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

LARGE-SCALE RURAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM ADVANCED

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 1

[Article: "The Village Under Construction"]

[Text] The appearance of the Soviet countryside is changing before our very eyes. It was announced from the local area that a new street filled with elegant buildings has sprung up in the Permean village of Zabor'ye. An animal husbandry complex has gone into operation on the Ptich' Sovkhoz near Minsk. The village of Dzhangala in Ural'skaya Oblast has opened a first-rate therapeutic clinic, and in the kolkhoz village of Shpogi the first rural department store in Latvia, Detskiy Mir, began to receive customers. In addition to such news, an army of more than 3 million rural construction workers are implementing the program earmarked by the 26th CPSU Congress for consistently consolidating the material and technical base of agriculture and further improving the well-being of rural workers.

The labor of construction workers is respected and responsible in our country. The comprehensive transformation of rural areas and the modern level of construction engineering require a different approach to the matter than simple construction of individual objects. This is why the volume of capital investments for these purposes is constantly growing. It now exceeds 37 billion rubles for the entire complex of work for the development of agriculture.

The tasks set for construction workers are great and varied. With complete understanding of their responsibility for their successful fulfillment, they are directing their efforts primarily toward the construction and reconstruction of facilities that provide for implementation of the food program. This includes complexes, farms and poultry farms, refrigeration and repair enterprises, vegetable storehouses and electric power transmission lines, mixed feed plants and elevators, and new capacities for primary processing of products. They are striving to construct at more rapid rates well arranged residential buildings, children's pre-school institutions, stores, clubs and other facilities for cultural and personal purposes.

The immense scope of the work requires a qualitatively new approach to the organization of production, a high technical level, and planning and material support for construction. Success has come to those who have taken into account the demands of the day. Good results are always being achieved by the collectives of

Saratovskiy, Sverdlovskiy, Stavropol'skiy, Rostovskiy, Kurganskiy, and Yaroslavskiy interkolkhoz construction associations, the Khmel'nitsksel'stroy and Ukrsovkhoz-spetsstroy trusts, the Tselinogradoblsel'stroy administration of the Kazakh SSR, and a number of construction organizations of Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Lithuania and other republics.

For many collectives of rural construction workers it has become a rule to devote special attention to startup projects. To achieve this they provide for maximum concentration of labor, material and financial resources for them. The party committees of the construction projects constantly check on strict observance of the startup schedule. They direct the efforts of all participants on the construction process toward the achievement of a good final result.

While noting the overall progress of construction in rural areas, one cannot but discuss the shortcomings which impede it and prevent workers from doing their jobs at more rapid rates. At the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade L. I. Brezhnev pointed out the need to considerably improve capital construction as a decisive part of the five-year plan. A radical change in this matter has still not been achieved. Greatly indebted to agricultural workers are contracting organizations of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture which have failed to carry out a number of assignments of the first year of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan. As a result of this, 116 facilities and capacities included in the state plan were not put into operation, including elevators, seed cleaning and dairy complexes and warehouses for mineral fertilizers.

The experience of the leading collectives convinces us that it is possible to accelerate the construction of facilities with reduced expenditures only under the condition of successful fulfillment of the assignments for increasing labor productivity and extensively disseminating and assimilating the advanced practice of the best brigades and initiators of competition. And here it is invaluable to have skillful utilization of moral and material stimuli, the support of innovators and the organization of effective socialist competition. To enlist all reserves of economy for the cause and reduce time periods means to work better, more efficiently and with greater return!

Rural construction sites are spread tens and sometimes hundreds of kilometers apart from one another and the supply bases. Under these conditions it is impossible to work in the old way. Questions of raising the level of industrialization of construction, changing over to prefabrication and introducing new efficient designs, material and technologies are appearing on the agenda with increasing persistence and importance. Basic reliance should be placed on achieving the greatest degree of readiness of items on the plant conveyor.

The results of the first quarter of the year show that because of organizational blunders, plans for contracting work remained unfulfilled by collectives of the Kirovskaya and Bryanskaya oblast rural construction administrations, the Ul'yanovskaya and Tul'skaya oblast interkolkhoz construction associations, Glavelevator-spetsstroy of the RSFSR Minsitry of Rural Construction, Glavarkhangel'skpromstroy of the USSR Ministry of Industrial Construction as well as other construction organizations. A number of construction sites do not have enough workers or materials, the forces are dispersed, and mechanisms and transportation are not fully

loaded. As a result there is a good deal of manual labor here and the brigade contract is being introduced poorly. Not everywhere is the proper amount of attention devoted to the creation of the necessary housing and domestic conditions for the construction workers or the organization of public catering. These issues must be at the center of the attention of local soviets and trade union organizations.

The goals of the second year of the five-year plan were clearly outlined by the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 6th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Let us give a couple of figures. For the construction of residential buildings in rural areas alone, 5.3 billion rubles have been allotted. More than 11,000 kilometers of intrafarm roads will be built. They have allotted 8.4 billion rubles for the development of agriculture in the nonchernozem zone, a considerable part of which is to be used for construction. The efforts of construction workers to fulfill the plans for 1982 and the five-year plan as a whole ahead of schedule and to provide a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR have been reflected in increased socialist commitments. It is necessary to treasure each hour, to work efficiently and rhythmically, in order to make a worthy contribution to strengthening the material and technical base of agricultural production and developing all areas of the agro-industrial complex.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

SUBSIDIARY INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES EXAMINED

Profitability Required

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 14 Apr 82 p 1

/Article by V. Shefer, deputy chief of the Main Planning-Economics Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture for the Kazakh SSR, Alma-Ata: "The Plant Has a Field"/

/Text/ The subsidiary farm of the Karagandaugol' Association annually furnishes 230-260 tons of meat, more than 700 tons of milk, approximately 2 million eggs and 150-200 tons of vegetables, potatoes and fruit. These are impressive volumes.

The experience of the Stroyplastmass Combine in Karagandinskaya Oblast, the collective of which created its own subsidiary farm several years ago, is deserving of approval. They began with a few animals and today the enterprise has 110 head of large-horned cattle and 680 hogs.

Overall, the industrial and procurement enterprises in Karagandinskaya Oblast annually produce an average of 500 tons of meat and almost 1,000 tons of milk.

With each passing year, an increase takes place in the number of people who favor such farms. Nevertheless, we still overhear one question being asked at times: should industrial enterprises burden themselves with agricultural concerns? Would it not be more wise to use the available funds and resources for strengthening the kolkhozes and sovkhoses, rather than for creating agricultural departments? The operational experience of the best agricultural departments reveals that they are economically feasible and profitable. Allow me to cite some examples by way of proving this fact.

During a year's time, several thousand hogs were fattened at the subsidiary farm of the Petropavlovsk Meat Combine. Food scraps were utilized for the most part. Nor was this the only combine that did this. Suckling pigs are usually fed whole milk. But where could the plant obtain this milk? They substituted whey for the milk, whey which some dairy combines were still discharging into their sewer lines. And they became convinced based upon practical experience that: one young pig can provide 20-30 kilograms of bacon if fed on this "worthless" feed. By adding grass, potatoes and grain production waste products to the ration, the plant workers are obtaining daily weight increases on their subsidiary farm which are no lower than those being obtained at sovkhoses.

Moreover, compared to the kolkhozes and sovkhoses, the industrial enterprises have a more powerful technical and engineering potential at their disposal. This makes it possible to reduce capital investments and to expend considerably less resources per unit of agricultural output than is the case at sovkhoses and kolkhozes.

Over a period of 3 years, a number of facilities were built and introduced into operations at the Aktyubinsk'sel'mash Association: cowbarns, a sheep raising complex, three pigsties, two calfhouses and all of the auxiliary buildings required for animal husbandry. All of the planning and estimates work was carried out by the collective of the planning-estimates bureau. The cost of this work and the construction itself, which was carried out using the economic method, was 17-23 percent cheaper than usual.

Many examples could be cited showing how subsidiary farms developed in a successful manner. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that the agricultural departments of enterprises are on the whole rather weak and the proportion of the goods produced by these departments is not very great. There is a simple reason for this: the leaders of many large enterprises, in the interest of avoiding unnecessary problems, are no longer erecting small hothouses. At times, such hothouses are used only for the growing of flowers. It is not our wish at this time to reproach the business leaders for their sluggishness or lack of foresight. Rather we will attempt to study the problem from their point of view, so as to be able to see more clearly the obstacles standing in the path of progressive work.

In the decree of the CC CPSU and the USSR Council of Ministers entitled "Concerning the Subsidiary Farms of Enterprises, Organizations and Institutes," adopted in 1978, a complex of measures is called for aimed at further developing the agrarian departments of industrial enterprises. In particular, it has been established that the enterprises are to be provided with tracts of land for this purpose and that the appropriate agricultural organs must supply the enterprises with high quality seed, planting stock and young pedigree livestock. The plans call for tractors, combines and mineral fertilizers to be made available and for financing the construction of projects associated with the development of subsidiary farms of enterprises, organizations and institutes by means of planned state capital investments and a number of other measures. It is as though everything has been provided for and all obstacles removed. But is the situation really this good in actual practice?

The worst and most weedy lands are being made available for use as subsidiary farms. The cultivation of such fields requires not only great capital investments but also special equipment. But such equipment is not being allocated to the enterprises on a planned basis and it is impossible to obtain special machines. Subunits of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources are not accepting contracts from the industrial enterprises for the carrying out of land reclamation work. Industrial enterprises must pay higher prices than sovkhoses and kolkhozes for mineral fertilizer, tractor trailers, grain harvesting combines and other agricultural equipment. This serves to raise the production costs and lower the profitability level.

When animals perish as a result of natural calamities, the organs of insurance reimburse the kolkhozes and sovkhoses for the losses sustained. Under similar circumstances, subsidiary farms are not entitled to such support.

Mechanization and automation are required in order to raise labor productivity in an agricultural department. And here a conflict arises: on the one hand, it is in the interests of the enterprise to acquire more fine equipment and, on the other, an increase in fixed productive capital of an agricultural nature lowers the indicator for output-capital ratio of an industrial enterprise. Indeed, in accordance with the existing statute, this indicator is determined according to the output of industrial products and taking into account all fixed productive capital, including that in the agricultural department.

When creating subsidiary farms, the leaders encounter other problems. Many rayons lack meat combines and large capacity refrigerators. Thus the animals are slaughtered in small groups. Fattened livestock are held over and this results in excessive feed consumption and increased production costs.

Difficulties also occur in connection with sales. Some departments produce products in an irregular manner throughout the year. It is as though they follow the old saying: stuff today and starve tomorrow. It would be more profitable for the products to be supplied to the meat combines under definite conditions and thereafter, as the need arises, for the products to be taken either in fresh or processed form. What is preventing this from being done? I believe it derives from the novelty of the problem.

In order to raise the interest of enterprises in developing subsidiary farms, the decree already mentioned calls for an enterprise to be reimbursed, by means of profit, for the difference between the procurement and retail prices for milk, meat and hothouse vegetables supplied to public catering enterprises by the subsidiary farms. But in Karagandinskaya Oblast only 40 percent of the output of the subsidiary farms is sold in this manner. The remaining amount is delivered to childrens' pre-school institutes, schools, hospitals, dispensaries and retail trade. And in such instances, no reimbursement is provided for the difference between the procurement and retail prices and thus the agricultural departments sustain losses.

The subsidiary farms of enterprises can and must make a worthy contribution towards solving the food problem. It is in the best interests of the state to create the most favorable conditions for their development.

Irkutsk Food Program Strengthened

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 82 p 2

[Article by A. Sokolov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Irkutskaya Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies and deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR: "The Plant Has a Garden and a Farm"]

[Text] The Korshunovskiy Mining-Enrichment Combine, which is located in the northern part of Irkutskaya Oblast, enjoys all of the food supply privileges and could manage quite well without the creation of its own subsidiary farm. The request by the director of the combine, V. Belomoin, to have neglected agricultural land assigned to the enterprise was viewed by many as an eccentricity on his part. Nevertheless, the director proved and defended his position. The combine was assigned unproductive and uninhabited land and a modern settlement and fine farms were built with the assistance of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy.

Thereafter the miners began managing this land to the envy of neighboring sovkhoses. Today this subsidiary farm numbers 450 head of cattle, 900 hogs and several thousand chickens. It has hothouses with 9,500 square meters of space. It even has its own horses.

The subsidiary farm is playing a substantial role with regard to supplying the collective of 10,000 members with food products. This is particularly noticeable in the workers' dining hall, the childrens' pre-school institutes and the young pioneer camps.

A great deal of information can also be provided on the subsidiary farm of another northern enterprise -- the Mamslyuda Combine. It has undertaken to supply milk and dairy products not only for its own workers, but for the entire settlement as well and at the present time it is managing without having to import any vegetables. A considerable quantity of meat is being produced here.

We now have many comparatively small enterprises which have farms for the fattening of hogs, with such work being carried out mainly using food scraps. In short, it has been proven in actual practice that if the work is organized well, an industrial enterprise should be able to improve noticeably the supply of the principal food products for its workers.

The local soviets play an important role in the formation and development of subsidiary farms. The people's deputies and their aktivs have been motivated to carry out active work by instructions handed down by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev during a speech delivered before the 17th Congress of Professional Trade Unions in the USSR, during a speech delivered in Tashkent and at a meeting with leaders of the Uzbek SSR. In light of these instructions, we are now more clearly aware of the opportunities and as yet unused reserves that are available for further developing food operations throughout the oblast.

Above, for example, mention was made of subsidiary farms which were created based upon the resources of one enterprise. But other experience is also available. The large city of Angarsk is located not far from Irkutsk. It is distinguished by fine organization for obtaining a good supply of vegetables and dairy products. And once again -- by means of a subsidiary farm. It was created by combining the forces and resources of a number of enterprises and institutes. Thus, large agricultural enterprises capable of supplying this large city sprang up outside the city's limits. At Angarsk, the workers are not relaxing their efforts, content with what has already been achieved. The city's enterprises are calling for 32 million more rubles to be allocated for further development of their agriculture. Naturally, this is by no means meant to imply that a farm excludes the possibility of individual subsidiary farms on the basis of cooperation. One of the best enterprises in Angarsk, one which produces cement, has its own hog farm, hothouses and a greenhouse and this in no way runs counter to the principle of cooperation.

All of these methods for creating subsidiary farms are acceptable as other variants provided they lead to the production of the quantity of agricultural products required. We are of the opinion that all large and medium-size associations, enterprises and organizations must have subsidiary farms with agricultural land for the production of animal husbandry products, based upon the use of internally produced feed, and for the growing of potatoes and vegetables.

The creation of subsidiary farms in Siberia and their purpose are somewhat special in nature. The area's intensive industrial development over the past decade has affected the fate of its agriculture. Dozens of cities have sprung up in Irkutskaya Oblast alone and this has created a need for workers. Quite often, these workers have come from neighboring villages. In addition, the creation of hydrostations on the Angara River brought about the flooding of the celebrated Ilim pastures, which served as the foundation for Siberian farming. The resettlement of villages along the Angara and Ilim river shorelines to new lands, which required different experience and immeasurably greater labor expenditures, affected the indicators and the psychological make-up of the peasants. There were also other reasons, included among which was the development of Taiga tracts of land, considered to be considerably inferior, in terms of quality, to the flooded lands. Thus we look on the subsidiary farms not simply as a means for obtaining the increase desired with regard to supplying the population with food, but also as one trend to be followed for the development and implementation of the oblast's food program.

The subsidiary farms warrant fixed attention. It should be stated directly that they involve many concerns and problems. The bureau of the oblast's CPSU committee and the oblast executive committee, in carrying out the decree of the CC CPSU and the USSR Council of Ministers entitled "Concerning the Subsidiary Farms of Enterprises, Organizations and Institutes," handed down a detailed decision in which the methods for developing rural subsidiary farms throughout the oblast during the current five-year plan were defined. An inter-departmental council was created last year for the coordination of measures associated with their organization and development. Included on the staff of this council were -- leading workers of oblplan /oblast planning commission/, the oblast agricultural administration, obl'sel'khoztekhnika, gosplanob'yedineniye and obl'sel'khozkhimiya.

The rayon party committees and rayon executive committees are furnishing assistance to the industrial enterprises in finding land for the subsidiary farms, in selecting the leading personnel for them and in establishing the podkhozhes /podsobnoye khozyaystvo; subsidiary farm/. Here it should be noted that every attempt must be made to overcome the red tape and procrastination that are taking place in connection with the allocation of land, caused by certain rayon leaders.

Specialists attached to the oblast and rayon production agricultural administrations are furnishing assistance to the industrial enterprises in organizing and managing the subsidiary farm and they are supplying them with advice regarding agronomic and zootechnical services.

Three years have passed since we created the subsidiary farms -- the time is at hand for discussing the accomplishments and problems. The accounting figures for the oblast give no cause for alarm. During this period, 29 farms (not counting small ones) with agricultural lands were created and 26 more are in the stage of being organized. In all, 217 large and small podkhozhes are presently in operation in our oblast. Last year, these subsidiary farms furnished 7,000 tons of meat, 14,000 tons of milk and 30,000 tons of potatoes and vegetables.

This is really not bad for the formational period. But indeed we are aware that the overall number includes, for example, such subsidiary farms as the Tulun Confectionery Factory, where only 5 hogs are being maintained. We are also aware that such an industrial giant as the Irkutsk Aviation Plant is not included among

the leaders in the production of agricultural products, owing to the fact that it was unable to speed up the preparations for operations. The average statistical line does not include the names of dozens of small enterprises desiring to create subsidiary farms, using either their own resources or on a cooperative basis, but the ministries and departments are in no hurry to respond in a positive manner to their questions concerning the allocation of resources. Gosbank is not reviewing their requests for credit, for the purpose of developing subsidiary farms.

Some economic leaders have expressed the opinion, and we are in agreement with them, that the oblast executive committees should be authorized to solve the question of credit for subsidiary farms on the spot. This would promote more rapid development of the podkhozhes.

The experience of the special Bratskgesstroy Administration testifies to the fact that many years are not required for the creation of a subsidiary farm. This administration solved the problems of planning, financing and construction in an efficient manner and today it has 600 head of cattle, 2,250 hogs and 1,200 rabbits. Why then was it that in this same Bratsk Bratskiy LPK Association, the aluminum plant did not follow its example?

There are no obvious reasons for this falling behind. Twelve thousand hectares of land were made available for the Bratsk workers -- develop, build and manage! But as yet only 1,600 hectares have been introduced into operations. And it is very clear that without land there can be no feed. Not long ago, during meetings of the bureau of the municipal CPSU committee and the executive committee of the Bratsk Municipal Soviet, the leaders of enterprises were acquainted with the illegal nature of the delays and they were asked to correct the shortcomings and omissions. But one question necessarily arises: why is it that not only these but a number of other enterprises as well are not displaying proper initiative in such important work?

Obviously, much is dependent here not only upon the local leaders but also upon the ministries and departments. Indeed, nowadays it is a small thing to issue a circular or to approve the desire of a production collective to create a subsidiary farm in the next decision handed down. Assistance is required for solving the practical problems associated with supplying the farms with equipment and ensuring that they have adequate material and financial resources available. It is believed that an omission such as the absence of accounting and reporting can cause harm to the work. And the statistics, as everyone known, also contains no information concerning subsidiary farms. I believe that this is a serious omission. The agricultural departments of industrial enterprises require great expenditures, effort and attention and they must become an equal part of the production activity: in the plans, reports and in the financing.

As has been stated, we are following a program aimed at creating large subsidiary farms and yet we are not neglecting the smaller ones, provided they are of assistance with regard to public catering. Over the past 3 years, the executive committee of the oblast soviet allocated 63,000 hectares of land for industrial enterprises, in the interest of creating a strong feed base for the livestock. Naturally, the development of this land and the construction of farm facilities require money, agricultural machines, materials, construction capabilities and

workers. It is assumed that in the case of all of these items the enterprises will receive assistance from their own ministries and departments.

Meanwhile, the oblast executive committee is aware that the representatives of a number of enterprises have for a long period of time been haunting the thresholds of their higher authorities, in their efforts to obtain the resources required for creating subsidiary farms on a cooperative basis. However, a positive solution for this problem is being postponed indefinitely.

Somewhat disturbing is the fact that, with minor exceptions, the dairy farms, fattening barns and hothouses at many of the subsidiary farms have a low level of mechanization. This is partially explained by the unsuitability of old buildings for the introduction of all-round mechanization. But it bears mentioning that the subsidiary farms are the last ones to be supplied with equipment, mechanisms and spare parts by the rayon associations of Sel'khoztekhnika. This does little to promote the formation of agricultural departments for enterprises. Certainly, we are correcting the Sel'khoztekhnika workers, but there is obviously still a need for the leadership of this department to direct the attention of its workers to the interests of this developing program.

And finally there is the problem of special importance -- the personnel problem. Specialists are not required for the maintenance of 2-3 hogs or a small hothouse. But the program cannot be carried out correctly in the absence of specialists. The enterprises require agronomists and zootechnicians, skilled pig-tenders and machine milking operators and machine operators with work experience. At a majority of enterprises, the workers for the agricultural department are selected from within the ranks of the enterprise.

A different zonal coefficient has been established in the oblast for workers in the various branches of the national economy. As a result, workers attached to enterprises, at times even within the same populated point, receive different bonuses added on to their wages. This problem with the zonal coefficient, a problem which does not lend itself to a logical explanation, led us into a blind alley -- when transferring industrial workers over to subsidiary farms (agriculture implied here), the workers lose out with regard to their wages, since the coefficient for agricultural workers is lower. True, it is difficult to explain why the workers of one plant or association receive a different increase added on to their wages.

It seems to us that subsidiary workers must enjoy all of the rights and privileges of their enterprises, regardless of whether they live in the city or rural areas. Indeed, owing to special circumstances, they were detailed to agricultural production and within a short period of time they must achieve results which will ensure that the podkhoz will not be a burden to the principal production effort.

By the end of the five-year plan, the development of the network and improvements in the efficiency of the subsidiary farms must, according to our computations, furnish the following in a conversion to specific figures: no less than 12,800 tons of meat, more than 26,000 tons of milk, 18 million eggs and more than 52,000 tons of vegetables and potatoes.

The organization of subsidiary farms has ceased to be a private affair of enterprises. This work is of great state importance and there can be no neglect

or derelictions is carrying it out. It is our opinion that this work should be characterized by uniform planning and financial policies for the country as a whole and that USSR Gosplan and Gossnab should have something to say in this regard. Obsolete instructions must not serve as an obstacle in the path of creative initiative by the masses.

Initiative of Kurgan Machinebuilders

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by G. Shcherbina, Kurganskaya Oblast: "The Initial Steps"]

[Text] In retrospect, it is difficult to recall all of the factors which caused the Kolkhoz imeni Krupskaya to fall critically behind. There were many such factors. The chairman was constantly being changed and there was a shortage of intelligent and competent specialists, machine operators and livestock breeders. As a result -- economic problems developed each year. The leaders in Belozerskiy Rayon did not undertake effective measures to correct this situation in a thorough manner. They concentrated their efforts on the large sovkhoses and kolkhozes and failed to devote proper attention to the farm in the village of Vagino,

Today I can still recall the sad picture of 4 years ago. On one occasion, during the summer, I passed through the streets of Vagino and sadly viewed the boarded up windows of homes and the overall state of mismanagement at the machine tractor station and on the nearby farms. Everything testified to the fact that the farm had been neglected.

All of this was clearly recalled when, during a discussion of the development of rural subsidiary farms of industrial enterprises, the deputy head of the Agricultural Department of the Kurganskaya Oblast CPSU Committee F. Yudkin, stated:

"The work of creating subsidiary farms for industrial enterprises has unfolded on a large scale. And I believe that the farm organized on the lands of the former Kolkhoz imeni Krupskaya can serve as a model example. May it have a good future!"

"Is this not the same Vagino Farm in Belozerskiy Rayon?" I asked somewhat surprised.

"Yes, the same" replied Fedor Yefimovich, "Only today it is the subsidiary farm of the Kurgansk Machine-building Plant imeni V.I. Lenin."

The administration and the plant committee of the professional trade union addressed a petition to the executive committee of the oblast soviet of people's deputies requesting that land be allocated and they gave their assurances that the land would be utilized in an efficient manner. In the oblast executive committee, the decision was handed down, by way of an exception, to turn over the lands of the backward kolkhoz to the machine-builders. Thus the fate of the village of Vagino was decided.

"It can be stated directly that the land we inherited was poor at the moment we began accepting the kolkhoz in December 1980," stated the plant's deputy director for agricultural production Ye. Vasil'kov, "The tractors, combines and motor vehicles

were in a deplorable state. No equipment was available for tilling the land. The animals on the farms were of low pedigrees and many were sick. The feed base did not ensure a high or even normal productivity. At the time the farm was accepted, that is, during 1980, the milk yield per cow amounted to only 1,695 kilograms and the average daily weight increase in large-horned cattle during fattening was 281 grams. The personnel did not display any genuine interest in the overall work and there was a shortage of workers. Nevertheless, we understood that we had been entrusted with considerable wealth and that we had to handle it in a skilful manner. And certainly the principal wealth was the land -- 6,073 hectares of agricultural land -- including 2,672 hectares of pasture land, 890 hectares of haying land and 2,511 hectares of arable land. There were 1,700 head of large-horned cattle on the farms, including 400 cows. To all of the above, we might also add calculating minds and concerned workers.

I wish to state outright that the initiative displayed by the Kurgan machine-builders was approved and supported by the ministry. They were provided with the necessary resources and with the funds required for obtaining equipment. This explains the appearance in Vagino, at the beginning of last year, of 15 new tractors and 6 combines. On the farms they began culling out low-productivity and sick cattle, replacing them with pedigree young stock. As a result, the herd began to improve and by the end of 1981 not only did the herd not decrease in size but in fact it increased to 1,800 animals. Skilled plant experts appeared on the farms -- builders, mechanics -- for the purpose of repairing the livestock facilities and installing mechanisms.

But I am getting ahead of my story. The renovation work commenced with an area of maximum concern -- that of selecting knowledgeable personnel and particularly the leaders of the farm. A very experienced specialist -- chief agronomist at the Pervomayskiy Sovkhoz in Kurtamyshskiy Rayon, Ivan Vasil'yevich Zhukov -- agreed to accept this position.

We also found a suitable candidate for the position of chief engineer. Moreover, we found him at the Kurgansel'mash Plant. He turned out to be Aleksandr Nikolayevich Seliverstov, a graduate of the Institute for the Mechanization and Electrification of Agriculture who had worked as a foreman in a department. He consented to take this position owing to the fact that his elderly parents lived not far from the village of Vagino.

It is interesting to note that once the people took note of the heightened activity at Vagino, the plant's board of directors began receiving letters from many villages containing requests to be accepted for work on the subsidiary farm. But the plant decided otherwise. Recalling the example of Seliverstov, we wondered whether or not there were many workers at the plant who earlier had worked in agriculture. The Personnel Department confirmed the fact that there were many such individuals. Thus, following appropriate explanatory work, more than 20 former machine operators, livestock breeders, field crop growers and rural builders submitted applications requesting that they be transferred to work on the subsidiary farm.

All of the subsidiary farm workers are included in the plant's collective, in the so-called "Department 100," which also includes ZhKO [communal housing department] workers, repair workers and builders and also workers attached to a poultry

complex that has already been in existence for several years. They enjoy the same rights and privileges as workers assigned to the principal production operation. Moreover, those plant workers waiting to be assigned apartments, following 5 years of continuous work on the subsidiary farm, are assigned housing in the city if they do not choose to dedicate their lives to the land forever.

In Vagino proper, they have commenced solving the housing problem on an accelerated basis. This year, 10 twin apartment and 8 single apartment well planned buildings are to be built here using the economic method.

Only one and a half years have passed since the kolkhoz land was turned over to the plant. But we can already firmly state at the present time that the psychological climate, the mood of the people and their labor activity have all changed for the better. And this is reflected in the raised level of discipline and in the work results. Here are several figures. In 1981 the average milk yield per cow on the subsidiary farm was 2,192 kilograms. The average daily increase in weight in the animals during fattening increased from 281 grams to 370, despite the fact that this is still not the best indicator. Overall, 161 tons of beef and 954 tons of milk were obtained on the subsidiary farm last year. If to this we add 160 more tons of meat produced by the poultry complex, then it is not difficult to weigh the importance of this addition to the plant's food supplies.

Substantial work commenced on the farm in connection with improving the fertility of the soil and raising the cropping power of the grain and forage crops. Genuine concern was displayed at the plant for ensuring the availability of an efficient and logistically sound program for the development of the subsidiary farm up until the end of the five-year plan. The implementation of this program will make it possible to raise the grain yields and feed procurements and, on this basis, to achieve further improvements in animal husbandry operations. Thus, for example, this year the plans call for each hectare to furnish 19 quintals of grain, or 3.2 quintals more than were obtained last year. And for the last year of the five-year plan they expect to raise the cropping power to 25 quintals, which is a rather high indicator for this region of the Trans-Urals area. An increase will also take place in the cropping power for forage crops -- corn and sunflowers for silage, annual and perennial grasses. All of these factors will ensure, by the year 1985, the production of beef in the amount of 260 tons and milk -- 1,390 tons.

In short, the work on the farm is being carried out in a normal manner. The machine operators, assisted by plant workers, prepared their equipment for the spring field work. With the assistance of the oblast agricultural organs, sufficient quantities of first class seed for corn, barley, sunflowers and other crops were placed in storage. Mineral fertilizers are being imported from other areas and local fertilizers are being moved out onto the fields at an accelerated rate.

For the workers in this small Trans-Urals village of Vagino, the new spring period represents a new and confident step taken towards the further development of production.

"Outstanding quality for all spring sowing operations!" this appeal by the CC CPSU is finding a wide response among the farm's workers.

Agricultural Efforts of Timber Industry

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by V. Romanyuk, economic reviewer for IZVESTIYA, Arkhangel'sk - Moscow:
"Agricultural Department of a Forestry Farm"]

[Text] On the desk of the director of the Maymaksanskiy timber port of the Dvinasplav Association N. Strelkov, I saw a book on animal husbandry. Intercepting my glance, Nikolay Aleksandrovich smiled and said:

"We must study all of the fine points as we learn how to manage our affairs on earth."

The subsidiary farm is 3 kilometers distant, on an island. We move along a road built by the timber rafting personnel themselves. On both sides there are stacks of pine beams with the smell of resin heavy in the air. We are met by the head of the subsidiary farm N. Polynkin and zootechnician K. Popovich. In a spacious farm building made out of logs, it is warm and clean. The preparation of feed and gathering up of farmyard manure are mechanized and automatic watering and electric milking have been introduced. The farm has 86 cows, 100 calves and 13 horses. Each day the farms send 350 liters of milk to childrens' institutes, a hospital and to the port's dairy kitchen; the meat is sold through the Solombal'skiy market, also for workers and the timber rafting personnel.

One out of every ten families of the timber rafting personnel maintain livestock on private plots. Last year, mechanic A. Sumarokov undertook to fatten a calf and this year he intends to purchase another one. "We will have meat for the entire year" he said, by way of explaining his decision. Last year, a calfmaid of the subsidiary farm, A. Smyshlyayeva, undertook to fatten two young pigs and this year she will once again purchase a young pig. She was provided with feed and a plot on which to grow potatoes and barley. Many families are maintaining sheep: thus they will have meat in their homes and wool which the housewives will knit into socks, sweaters and mittens, all required items in this northern region.

Certainly, the chief factor which earns praise for the Arkhangel'sklesprom collective of 80,000 persons -- the 20 million cubic meters of timber that are procured and exported annually and the wood-working products. But the "agricultural departments" of the association are of equal renown. Approximately 1,500 individuals are working in these departments. The subsidiary farms are found practically at all of the timber industry establishments. And some of the chief aspects of their activity include: dynamic nature, constant technical renovation and growth and good interaction with the departments of workers' supply and with the local population in the fattening of livestock.

Such is the situation on the subsidiary farm of the Plesetskles Association, where a considerable increase was achieved last year in the number of cows and hogs and where the following increases are called for this year: 86 head of large-horned cattle and 386 hogs. The farm of the leading enterprise -- most productive and technically well equipped -- has its own particular history. At one time it was eliminated. Now it is being restored anew. With the aid of state bank loans, a standard cow barn, two calfhouses, a grain storehouse and two silo trenches have been built. A calfhouse with a feed preparation shop, a vegetable storehouse and

a hayloft are under construction. At the settlement, a water line has been installed and two dozen twin-apartment buildings have been built. These facilities have been of great assistance with regard to attracting personnel into the area. The farm is headed by a former chairman of a local kolkhoz, V. Lichkov. An entire family of specialists has come to Plesetsk from Vologodskaya Oblast -- zootechnician A. Gladtsheva and agronomist N. Gladtshev and an invitation to come to Plesetsk has been accepted by veterinary doctor V. Tomilov.

The structure of the Karpogorles Association includes five timber industry establishments. A subsidiary farm is at each timber station: for the most part, they are not very large, but rather they are compact and their land areas are found alongside streams or consist of unsuitable land. Nevertheless they furnish substantial amounts of additional food for the dining tables of the lumberjacks. Thus, whereas 764 tons of milk are allocated for workers annually in accordance with the ORS [department of workers' supply], 558 tons are delivered to public catering facilities by the subsidiary farms; 401 tons of meat are allocated and 145 tons are produced on the subsidiary farms. Overall, there are 204 kilograms of milk and 84 kilograms of meat per worker.

The lands of the Zemtsovskiy Subsidiary Farm, created on the basis of a former brigade of the Rodina Kolkhoz, are located in a picturesque area not far from the Pinega River. The menu for the two mobile dining halls of the timber point and also for the dining hall made out of logs at the timber station is certainly to be envied: three first courses, five second meat courses and the third course -- cranberry juice, stewed fruit and milk. At the childrens' institutes, a selection is available of pork, beef or rabbit meat.

The subsidiary farms of the timber procurement specialists have not become a "fifth wheel." Many of them are operated on an efficient basis. For example, the milk yields of the Karpogorles Association are on the average 90 kilograms higher than those of the Pinezhskiy Rayon Agricultural Administration. On the whole, the milk yields of Arkhangel'sklesprom surpassed the level for the oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhoses by 36 kilograms. The "agricultural departments" of timber industry establishments have 5,100 more hogs undergoing fattening than do all of the oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhoses taken together.

The vitality of these "agricultural departments" of industry is even more striking when one considers that they began almost from nothing, consisting of backward farms, worthless land for all practical purposes lacking skilled specialists. But they possessed a powerful industrial base. Industry, in developing its own subsidiary farms, furnishes a high production culture, technical equipment and industrial work methods. Many fine changes took place within a brief period of time: new streets appeared, service centers and clubs were opened and steam heating and water lines were provided. When the Stakhanovets Kolkhoz was turned over to the Sosnovskiy timber industry establishment of the Karpogorles Association there were only 52 cows and no hogs whatsoever. Today the herd has been increased to 380 head of large-horned cattle and 255 hogs; milk production was increased by a factor of 4 and meat -- by a factor of 7.

The celebrated Permilovskoye Subsidiary Farm was created here based upon the backward Krasnyy Front Kolkhoz. This farm was recently awarded the diploma of the

USSR VDNKh /Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy of the USSR/ and hog-tender N. Shikhova received the gold medal of the VDNKh and was also awarded a small Moskvich automobile.

"I have been assigned 60 principal and one-time farrowing sows" stated Natal'ya Pavlovna, "and during the summer, when it is necessary to obtain more young pigs also for sale to manual and office workers, I service up to 90-100 sows. I am fortunate in that my daughter Lyudmila, who has mastered the work very well, works with me. We satisfy the farm's requirements for young stock completely and, as well, each year we sell approximately 400 young pigs to the manual and office workers."

Two hundred and thirteen forestry settlements appear as just so many peas thrown onto a map of the oblast -- they range from the very cold White Sea to the southern edge of the oblast and even beyond its border. It is a problem to reach some of them. Yet these remote areas must also be supplied with everything required for normal living. The subsidiary farms regularly supply the public catering establishments with meat and milk and this plan is indispensable.

"We feed 33,000 workers" proudly stated the chief of Arkhangel'sklesurs K. Marachkovskiy, "380 mobile dining halls have been established for work in the forest."

The timberjacks and timber rafting personnel perform difficult work -- they are located far from inhabited areas and they are constantly buffeted by cold and ice cold winds. Well organized meals and a good selection of dishes means a great deal to these people. In addition to feeding the timberjacks, the ORS's also participate in solving the food problem. Approximately 6,600 hogs are being maintained at 92 ORS hog fattening barns. The ORS's lack their own large-scale feed base and thus they must rely upon efficiently organized food scrap collections at dining halls, childrens' institutes and vegetable storehouses. Last year, for example, 6,700 tons of food scraps were collected against a plan calling for just 4,800 tons. This constituted 62 percent of the overall food ration for the hogs.

Skilful use is being made of the oblast's natural and plant wealth and its numerous reservoirs. In lakes and rivers and along the coastal zone of the White Sea, the fishing brigades of ORS's annually catch more than 100 tons of various types of fish -- pike, white salmon, bream and White Sea herring. In addition to the traditional fried fish, the workers' dining halls prepare fish in eggs, baked well with potatoes and onions and fish in the Russian manner. The ORS's also procure mushrooms and berries: last year, 48 tons of mushrooms and more than 130 tons of cranberries, whortleberries and bilberries were procured. Red whortleberries soaked in their own juice are in great demand; cranberries are used for making pastry, curd tarts and closed and open pies. During the summer, up to 800,000 litres of cranberry juice is made for the timber procurement specialists.

Over the past 2 years, personnel turnover at Arkhangel'sklesprom has decreased by 3.7 percent and in this area a great deal depends upon the organization of food and domestic services. However, during the course of establishing the subsidiary farms certain problems appeared which will only become greater as time passes. One such critical problem concerns the allotment and development of new lands.

The recommendation has been made to have Arkhangel'sklesprom, which has 2,700 hectares of arable land available, develop 7,000 hectares of new land during this current five-year plan; all of this work will be carried out using existing equipment.

The timber procurement specialists can obtain harrows and rotary plows, but there are practically no brush cutters, stump pullers or bulldozers available. USSR Gosplan is not planning the allocation of such equipment to the "agricultural departments," despite the fact that the lands so allocated are generally areas on which the trees have been cut down, regions overgrown with light forestation or undergrowth or swampy tracts and thus they require considerable land reclamation work and the land reclamation specialists decline to furnish assistance to the subsidiary farms: the work volumes are too small.

The director of the Plesetsk subsidiary farm, V. Lichkov, is convinced for example that the farm could produce much more if it had such equipment. The logistical base that has been created and the fact that the number of hogs and cows has been increased by more than two and a half times are making it possible to increase the return by means of raised productivity. But sufficient land is not available for a firm feed base and this applies particularly to pasture land. Debates have been in progress for 4 years now with the reclamation specialists concerning the development of 50 hectares of land: it is not being included in the plan, again because of the low volume of work. Yet they are unable to plow up the new land using their own resources.

The requests for land to be allocated to subsidiary farms are being reviewed with a great amount of procrastination in the rayon executive committees. The technical equipping of newly introduced farms is lagging behind: not enough conveyers, converter-boilers or electrical equipment are being made available. The requests of the subsidiary farms for seed are being handled last and this is causing a delay in the sowing periods and it will result in a shortfall in feed. Quite often the organizations of Sel'khoztekhnika view the subsidiary farms as though they are of secondary importance.

The "agricultural departments" of industrial enterprises have their own particular peculiarities. With rare exception, they are small production efforts calculated to satisfy the needs of mobile collectives, such as timber stations located in remote regions. Low power equipment is required and industry is producing machines for the tilling of vast tracts of arable land. A requirement exists for miniature tractors, mowing machines, sowing machines and plows.

The subsidiary farms need skilled personnel. Today many of them are lacking zootechnicians, agronomists and specialists in the electrification of agriculture. Yes and specialists are not too willing to work on subsidiary farms. These farms are subordinate to industry and their workers live in remote settlements and perform important work. But the workers on the subsidiary farms are not entitled to additional vacation time or other privileges granted for work in the northern region, such as the timberjacks and timber-rafting personnel are entitled to. The chief of "Arkhangel'sklesprom," V. Plokhov, is convinced that the work would be carried out more successfully if the workers in the "agricultural departments" were granted the same privileges being given to the workers of the timber industry enterprises.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev wrote in the book "Tselina" /The Virgin Lands/: "There are still many leaders who live on the basis of extensive funds, never giving any thought to where the state can procure these funds. Use must be made in our country of every opportunity and every patch of land so as to increase the production of agricultural products in all areas and have additional food for our tables. Indeed, this will make it possible to ensure that the population is supplied with food by means of local resources, thereby eliminating the need of transporting tomatoes, cucumbers from the south, eggs, cottage cheese and milk over hundreds of kilometers."

The initiative displayed by the Arkhangel'sk timber procurement specialists will certainly produce results. By developing their subsidiary farms, they produced considerable additional food for the dining tables of northern workers. But the problems they encountered are hindering the complete realization of the advantages offered by this progressive form for organizing the production of food products for workers. The time is at hand for solving these problems as part of an overall complex of operations.

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TILLING AND CROPPING TECHNOLOGY

IMPROVING SEED GRAIN PRODUCTION IN LATVIAN SSR

Moscow EKONOMIKA SEL'SKOGO KHOZYAYSTVA in Russian No 4, Apr 82 pp 28-30

/Article by Irena Fritsevna Selinya, chief agronomist on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in Talsinskiy Rayon, the Latvian SSR: "Experience of the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in the Production of Seeds of Grain Crops"/

/Text The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Measures for the Further Improvement in the Selection and Breeding of Seeds of Grain and Oil Crops and Grass" (1976) stresses the vast importance of industrial seed breeding. Its essence is to specialize kolkhozes, sovkhoses and interfarm enterprises in the production of seeds and to maximally mechanize all processes.

Farms in our country's nonchernozem zone are under climatic conditions complicated for grain production (a short vegetative period and an increased seed moisture during harvesting). Therefore, technical and technological difficulties have arisen on the path of introduction of industrial seed breeding. In order to process the seed heap arriving from combines in one operation on a production line (by the flow method), preserving and improving the quality of seeds, it is necessary to have a sufficiently strong material and technical base. Only industrial seed breeding makes it possible to solve these problems successfully.

In Talsinskiy Rayon the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin is the farm performing the functions of an interfarm enterprise for the production of seeds of grain crops. The first rayon agroindustrial association in the republic (and one of the first in the country) was established in this rayon of the Latvian SSR. The Kolkhoz imeni Lenin is one of the three farms producing seeds of grain crops. When the program scheme for the specialization and concentration of seed breeding was prepared in 1976, such factors as the attained standard of farming, the provision of seed breeding farms with personnel, the material and technical base, the distance of seed transportation and a number of others were taken into consideration.

The scientists of the Latvian Agricultural Academy in cooperation with the rayon's specialists prepared all the technical documents for farms in Talsinskiy Rayon.

The program for the specialization and concentration of seed breeding was prepared with due regard for capital construction and the sector's supply of equipment in the rayon, because the success of industrial seed breeding depends on the provision of farms with material and technical facilities for the postharvest processing and storage of seeds.

The economic relations between farms producing and purchasing seeds are built on a scientific basis. Whereas previously every farm received elite seeds of grain crops from selection stations and propagated them up to the fifth reproduction, now only seed breeding farms do this. Propagating elite seeds up to the third reproduction, they sell them to other kolkhozes and sovkhoses for the cultivation of commodity grain.

The central station for the postharvest processing of seeds of grain crops was reconstructed on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in 1977. Its drying unit consists of two SZSB-8 dryers and 32 S-50 V 67 ventilated hoppers. Since dryers and seed cleaning and grading machines are placed under ventilated hoppers, it was not necessary to build walls and intermediate floors. The construction of this enterprise was not expensive and the construction time was shortened.

The S-50 V 67 ventilated hopper is designed for the storage of seeds received from combines for postharvest processing. In hoppers the moisture of seeds before processing in heat dryers is evened out and they are dried under conditions close to the natural conditions of seed ripening. Seeds are ventilated with unheated air.

We also use overall mechanization in seed treatment. In this case the service personnel and the environment are fully protected against the effect of harmful substances. The warehouse for treated seeds is built of S-50A hoppers. Hoppers are raised 4.2 meters above the ground level so that a motor vehicle--loader of seeders--may freely pass under them.

Seeds are treated in a portable chamber over the hopper that is filled at a given moment. The appropriate amount of seeds and of the treater suspension enters the portable chamber for treatment. From the storage facility seeds are delivered by a conveyer belt and a bucket elevator.

The treater suspension is prepared in a unit consisting of the capacity of a mixer and a dosing device. Its productivity, if two hoppers are filled, is up to 30 tons per hour. Treatment is done 30 to 40 days before sowing. Immediately after the treatment the germination energy of seeds is 89 to 95 percent and the germination rate, 93 to 98 percent. After 30 to 40 days of storage in capacities these indicators rise by 1 to 7 and 1 to 4 percent respectively.

Farm specialists reached the following conclusion. In order that the quality of seeds during storage in capacities is not lowered, their moisture must be no more than 13 percent. The loading of seeders by means of a special motor vehicle takes 5 to 10 minutes. According to the evaluation of the Institute of Economics of the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences, the economic benefit derived at the complex for the treatment and storage of seeds on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in 1980 totaled almost 106,500 rubles. On the basis of the fact that the total expenditures on the treatment and storage of seeds are 1.46 rubles per hectare and additional income is 15 rubles per hectare, the expected economic efficiency from the introduction of new technology in the Latvian SSR is 10 million rubles.

For these developments the specialists of our farm and the corresponding scientific workers at the Stende Experimental Selection Station of the Latvian Order of the Red Banner of Labor Agricultural Academy were awarded the republic state prize in 1980.

The Talsinskiy Rayon Agroindustrial Association has adopted a variant of labor organization and technology in which in spring and fall treated seeds are delivered from seed breeding farms directly to seeders in fields. In this case seed breeding is maximally concentrated on a rayon scale and all working processes can be mechanized more efficiently. Furthermore, seed breeding farms are fully responsible for the provision of other agricultural enterprises in the rayon with high-quality seeds.

The coordinated, efficient and smooth operation of all the sowing units of farms receiving seeds from the treated grain warehouse of the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin is ensured by the schedule plan, which is developed and coordinated in advance, for the delivery of seeds during the sowing time on farms receiving seeds and by the operation of the control service center, which uses permanent radio telephone and intercom systems among interacting farms (a radio telephone is installed on seed delivering motor vehicles).

In the fall of 1977 the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin delivered with its own transport facilities 233 tons of seeds of winter grain crops to the fields of the Tsinya and Tin'-gere kolkhozes. Until then these farms had difficulty in coping with an independent preparation of high-quality seeds and, usually, they sowed late. In 1977 the farms in the zone serviced by the seed breeding kolkhoz were the first in the rayon to complete the sowing of winter grain crops.

The mutual relations between the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin and the farms receiving seeds from it are annually established by a contract approved by the Talsinskiy Rayon Agroindustrial Association. The contract does not enable farms to lower the high rates of overall work on the preparation of soil, application of fertilizers and sowing of grain crops coordinated so that a joint group operation of no less than three sowing units is ensured.

The mutual relations between the seed breeding farm and farms receiving seeds are based on accounting prices worked out by the division of the agrarian-industrial complex of the Institute of Economics of the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences together with the specialists of the rayon agroindustrial association and our kolkhoz. These prices are advantageous for both parties and ensure a 40 to 60 percent profitability of seed production.

However, in 1982 the seed breeding farm demanded in the rayon agroindustrial association a revision of current accounting prices, because they did not take into consideration the possibility of obtaining 50-percent increments for an increase in the volume of state purchases. The kolkhoz does not sell grain to the state.

In 5 years of work within the framework of the Talsinskiy Agroindustrial Association the farm sold more than 4,000 tons of high-quality seeds to the farms of this association and fully met its own need for seeds.

The currently existing regional system of seed supply is temporary. At the end of the 11th Five-Year Plan, when all the seed breeding projects of the rayon agroindustrial association are fully put into operation, the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin will supply seeds to the farms of its region, which are located in a radius of up to 25 km.

In order to annually provide more than 8,000 hectares of grain crops, or one-third of all the areas sown with grain crops in the rayon, with seeds, on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin grain crops occupy 1,800 hectares. Furthermore, the farm specializes in the production of commodity potatoes, fruits and vegetables. Grain crops occupy 52 percent of the entire sown area, including winter crops, 35 percent. We cultivate rye of the Kustro variety on 500 hectares and Mironovskaya 808 winter wheat, on 350 to 400 hectares. The Nadya and Abava barley varieties occupy 900 hectares. Of the oats varieties the Sel'ma variety proved to be the best. Peas of the Stendskoye Gero variety are still grown on negligible areas.

On the average, in the last 5 years the harvest of grain crops on the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin was not below 17 quintals per hectare, at times reaching 35 to 37 quintals.

In order to successfully fulfill the functions of an interfarm enterprise for the production of seed grain, the kolkhoz very strictly observes all agrotechnical requirements, that is, a high standard of farming, early and brief (3 to 10 days) spring and fall sowing, harrowing on the third and fourth day after sowing, early topdressing of winter crops and treatment of all fields with herbicides.

One technological detachment with four links, each having four or five combines, works in harvesting. The rates of harvesting have to be held back, because all the bulk grain is initially treated according to the seed technology. A preliminary facility for the storage of 3,000 tons of grain with active ventilation will be built on the farm in 1982. This will make it possible to guarantee the production of first-category seeds under any weather conditions.

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